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King, Arafat discuss peace efforts

PLO leader pays tribute to King's role, wishes success for U.S. trip

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat Monday held talks on the Middle East peace process and means of activating it, and both leaders underlined the need to maintain the distinguished Jordanian-Palestinian relations.

The King and Mr. Arafat, who arrived here Monday evening on a brief working visit, also dwelt on Arab and regional issues as well as the situation in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories.

King Hussein stressed at the meeting that the Palestinian cause was a just one and was being received by the world community with more understanding and sympathy and voiced confidence that it would eventually overcome all challenges facing it.

The King also emphasised that Jordan was exerting all efforts to help the Palestinian people regain



His Majesty King Hussein Monday receives Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat (Petra photo)

their full legitimate rights and seeks to establish a just, comprehensive and durable peace in the region.

Abdul Salam Al Majali, Royal Court Chief Khaled Al Karaki, the King's Military Advisor His Royal Highness Prince Talal Ben Mohammad, the King's Advisor on Islamic Affairs Sheikh Izzeddin Al Khatib Al Tamimi, Information Minister Maan Abu Nowar, Minister of State for Prime Ministry Affairs Jawad Al Anani, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Talat Sataan Al Hassan and Royal Protocol Chief Mohammad Al Udwan.

On the Palestinian side, the talks were attended by members of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee Farouk Al Kaddoumi, Yasser Abed Rabbo, Shafiq Al Hout, Yasser Amer, Sulaiman Al Najjab and Mohammad Al Nashashibi, chief Palestinian negotiator Haidar Abdul Shafi.

The talks were attended on the Jordanian side by Prime Minister

(Continued on page 10)

Royal wedding festivities start

AMMAN (Petra) — Celebrations of the wedding on Thursday of His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Ben Al Hussein started Monday evening at the Royal Court attended by His Majesty King Hussein, Royal Family members and high-ranking officials and public figures. The celebration included traditional dabkeh dances, national songs and fireworks. Prince Abdullah will Thursday wed Rania Al Yassin.

Iran, Syria and Turkey stress need to avoid Iraq breakup

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran, Turkey and Syria Monday discussed the threat of northern Iraq's Kurds and stressed the need to avoid the territorial breakup of Iraq, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported. Large Kurdish communities live in Iran, Turkey and Syria. These countries fear that a de facto Kurdish state emerging in northern Iraq could lead to the disintegration of that country and spur the fight for a Kurdish homeland carved out of Iranian, Turkish, Syrian and Iraqi territory. The official Iranian agency, monitored in Cyprus, said the discussion of the Kurdish issue took place during a meeting in Tehran of three countries' foreign ministers: Farouk Al Sharaf of Syria, Hikmet Cetin of Turkey and Iran's Ali Akbar Velayati. "The aim of our efforts has been to defuse tension in the region and prevent Iraq's disintegration," Mr. Velayati was quoted as saying during the meeting. But Mr. Velayati also voiced concern over Baghdad's "repressive policies" against the Kurds in northern Iraq. The 20 million Kurds, an Indo-European race, are spread around five states — 10 million in Turkey, 5.5 million in Iran, 3.5 million in Iraq, with small enclaves in Syria and the Soviet Union. They share a common language, related to Iran's Farsi tongue, and are overwhelmingly Sunni Muslim.

GCC reviews relations with Iran

RIYADH (AP) — Foreign ministers of the Saudi-led group of Gulf Arab countries met Monday to discuss relations with Tehran following Iranian attempts to stage anti-Western rallies in Mecca, as well as other issues. Relations between Iran and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) alliance — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and the United Arab Emirates — have been steadily improving, with Saudi King Fahd preparing to host Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani. Gulf news agencies reported ahead of the GCC foreign ministers' meeting that relations with Iran were prominent on the agenda. But in a brief public address, the chairman of the group, UAE Foreign Minister Rashid Abdullah, sidestepped any mention of the Persian state. Arab diplomats interpreted this as an attempt by the Saudi-led group to play down the Mecca incidents until Friday's Iranian presidential election, when Mr. Rafsanjani — who favours better ties with the GCC — is expected to be re-elected to a new four-year term.

Jordan rejects Israeli claim of peace accord

Abu Nowar dismisses Peres' assertion as unfounded, reaffirms Kingdom's stand

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Monday categorically denied that it was planning to conclude a separate peace agreement with Israel and described reports and claims to this effect as aiming to shake the united Arab front and causing a breach and divisions among Arab ranks.

"Jordan absolutely rejects all unilateral deals and considers such claims and rumours as harming the information Ma'an Abu Nowar said in a statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

"Jordan has long been warning against unilateral deals with Israel since such moves are totally contradictory to the Jordanian policy and the Kingdom's firm demand for a peaceful solution that should be comprehensive on all fronts and covering all questions put forward for negotiations since they constitute inalienable rights that cannot be compromised," the statement said.

The minister's statement was an apparent response to a claim made by Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres saying that Israel and Jordan had reached a peace agreement and all it needed was to be signed.

"The Jordanian government believes in a just durable and comprehensive peace that can ensure the return of all the rights to their legitimate owners as guaranteed by U.N. Security Council

resolutions that provide a framework and a terms of reference for the peace process," Dr. Abu Nowar's statement said.

He said that Jordan had been seeking peace and offering evidence about its position and intentions, "but, in seeking peace, it can by no means cede an iota of its soil or rights."

"Jordan believes in collective action with the other Arab countries and in full coordination with them for the sake of attaining an honourable and just peace that can be acceptable to the coming generations," the minister said.

"The Jordanian government believes that the Palestine problem remains the core and essence of the whole Arab-Israeli conflict and therefore without a just and honourable solution to this problem peace would remain void of its meaning and substance," Dr. Abu Nowar added.

"Jordan fully supports the Palestinian people until they regain their political and legal rights in their homeland," he said.

"In this respect, it should be said that the Palestinian people is the only party that is entitled to take a decision concerning their problem, but Jordan will continue to provide assistance to them until they attain their rights and regain their homeland," he said.

"Jordan will therefore exert all possible efforts within the coordination framework with the

Palestinian brothers and will continue to provide backing for their just cause," he added.

Jordan seeks the restoration of the full rights of the Palestinian people, including their lands and water, and the right of return of all the refugees and displaced people among them in implementation of international law, Dr. Abu Nowar said.

Jordan has been seeking a just and peaceful negotiation as the most effective method that can ensure the restoration of the Palestinian people's rights, he said.

He said that following nine rounds of talks Jordan had been able to reach an agenda for negotiations with Israel, but language problems still existed and this was still being negotiated.

"Although the agreed agenda has enhanced the basic principles which Jordan continues to adhere to — like the land, the refugees and water — which this country considers as progress in the negotiations, this achievement can only constitute the beginning of the negotiating process," he said.

He said there was a great deal of basic issues which require addressing and which need time and perseverance and follow-up.

For this reason, he added, these Jordanian issues are hard to be objectively resolved without full Arab coordination and without a comprehensive solution for all issues at all fronts.

Arabs accept June 15 bilaterals

Combined agency dispatches

AMMAN — The Arabs will attend the 10th round of peace talks with Israel scheduled for next week, a senior Jordanian official said Monday.

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Talat Sataan Al Hassan said the foreign ministers of the Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and top foreign affairs officials of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) decided to participate in the next round of talks scheduled for June 15 in Washington.

"The ministers studied the issue and decided to respond positively," to Washington's invitation issued to the Arabs and Israelis on Saturday, Mr. Hassan said.

His comments, made to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, were the first formal confirmation that the Arabs will participate in the U.S.-backed negotiations that began 19 months ago.

On Sunday, the ministers issued a statement at the end of a daylong meeting in Amman stressing their commitment to the Middle East peace process. But they failed to say clearly that they accepted Washington's invitation to the 10th round.

"The ministers have agreed to

consolidate contacts with the (American) sponsor during the remaining period for the start of the next round in order to guarantee that it will seriously intend to achieve fundamental progress in the negotiations," the statement said.

Although the statement did not directly say the Arabs would return to the bargaining table, the PLO's de facto information minister, Yasser Abed Rabbo, told Reuters: "It was implied."

The communiqué, essentially meaning Washington, to oblige Israel to end human rights abuse and comply with U.N. resolutions calling on it to exchange land in return for peace.

In the meeting, the ministers heard the Palestinians argue for a delay in returning to the next round.

Sources close to the conference said while the Palestinians sought American guarantees before going to the 10th round, the other Arabs wanted to attend the session with no preconditions.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, one source told the Associated Press Sunday that Palestinian demands included American pledges that the Clinton administration would play an

active role during the talks and would press Israel to engage in substantial negotiations with the Arabs.

"We're calling on the Americans to undertake an honest unbiased role as a mediator," said chief Palestinian delegate Haidar Abdul Shafi.

"The most important form of this honest and unbiased role is that it enforces on the negotiating parties the respect of the basis of peace talks," he told Reuters.

Delegates said the Palestinians did not want to seem to be rushing into the talks, particularly before a meeting planned for late Monday between PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and His Majesty King Hussein.

"In truth what was discussed at the meeting was the fate of the Arab World," Palestinian peace delegate Saeb Erekat told reporters after the marathon session.

In comments later, Dr. Abdul Shafi said it was still unclear whether Palestinians would attend the next round of talks.

"We are awaiting the American position and attempts to explore its view are needed through further contacts to see if there is anything new that would encourage us to resume participation



Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali (left) Monday meets with Lower House of Parliament Speaker Abdul Latif Arabiyat (Petra photo)

Arabiyat says he got Majali's assurance on election legislation

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The government has not taken any decision to amend the Election Law and any such move would be adopted only after national consultations involving all sectors of the society, Parliament Speaker Abdul Latif Arabiyat quoted Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali as saying Monday.

Dr. Arabiyat, a leading member of the Muslim Brotherhood movement which opposes any amendment to the law without parliamentary approval, said he discussed the issue "in general" with Dr. Majali during a meeting at the Prime Ministry on Monday.

"The prime minister said the government had not taken any decision in this regard and that any move in this context would be preceded by consultations in which everybody would participate," Dr. Arabiyat told the Jordan Times.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Dr. Majali told Dr. Arabiyat that the new government, which took office late last month, was keen on "implementing the directives of His Majesty King Hussein as contained in the letter of designation."

The government of Dr. Majali is primarily entrusted with the

(Continued on page 10)

Spaniards back Socialists again — but with a warning

MADRID (AP) — Spanish voters have given the Socialist Party its fourth-straight term in office but at the same time served notice that they expect things to be done differently this time around.

Allegations of corruption and a dismal economic outlook cut sharply into the majority Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez has enjoyed in parliament for the past decade.

The Socialists won only 159 of the 350 seats in the lower house Sunday in the closest election since Spain returned to democracy 16 years ago.

This is far short of the 176 seats needed for an outright majority, but the Socialists were nonetheless expected to go it alone and form a minority government, joining with smaller parties as

necessary on specific votes.

Mr. Gonzalez admitted Monday that the party had staved off its strongest challenge ever from the conservative Popular Party since winning a landslide victory in 1982.

"I want all the citizens to know that I understand their message clearly; that I know the triumph should be taken precisely as a message for change — change within change," the 51-year-old Gonzalez told supporters.

"Without a doubt, this is the most open and hardest-fought election in Spanish democracy," he said.

The Socialists won a working majority of 175 seats in the last elections in 1989.

The Popular Party, meanwhile, made spectacular gains in parliament, winning 141 seats, 34 more

than in 1989.

And while the Socialist victory indicates that the Popular Party was unable to break completely free of its past right-wing connections with the dictatorship of Francisco Franco, the party's surge in support showed many Spaniards were definitely unhappy with the Socialists' latest performance in office.

Popular Party leader Jose Maria Aznar, 40, insisted the results at least demonstrated that the Socialists could no longer do as they wished.

"A new era has begun, the era of Socialist hegemony is over," Mr. Aznar said Monday. "From now on, nothing will be the same."

The election result, while bucking a trend in Europe of conservative victories over discredited socialist parties, confirmed Spain's gradual movement towards a two-party system.

Together, the Socialists and the Popular Party won 300 seats while the third-most-voted party, the communist-led United Left coalition, was far behind with 18 seats. But this figure was four more than the group received in 1989.

The vote also bade a virtual farewell to Spain's only indisputably centrist party, the Democratic and Social Centre, which fell from 14 seats to one.

The country's two main regional parties, meanwhile, gained little or no ground. The centre-right Catalan coalition Convergencia and Union dropped one seat to 17, while the Basque Nationalist Party maintained its five seats.

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Iraq boosts oil smuggling to Iran, Turkey, magazine says

By Ed Blanche
The Associated Press

NICOSIA — Iraq is smuggling increasing amounts of oil and petroleum products to Iran and Turkey in defiance of U.N. sanctions, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) reported Monday.

The respected oil industry newsletter estimated that Baghdad is currently exporting more than 100,000 barrels a day to Jordan, Iran and Turkey.

Iraq is permitted by the United Nations to truck 50,000 barrels of crude oil and 20,000 barrels of fuel oil a day to neighboring Jordan, the kingdom's only source of oil.

So that would indicate that some 30,000 barrels a day is going to Iran and Turkey.

The brief MEES report is the first estimate of the volume of Iraqi oil involved in the cross-border trade with Iran and Turkey. It was not clear how much of the estimated 30,000 barrels is going to Iran.

The United States said March 30 that Iraq had made a "large shipment" of oil to Iran, accusing Tehran of breaking the embargo intended to force Iraq to comply with U.N. resolutions. Iran denied that.

MEES, published in Nicosia, said Iraq last month boosted its oil production to 500,000 barrels a day, an increase of 50,000 barrels a day over April.

That would indicate that the cross-border oil trade is being conducted on a regular basis rather than the apparently haphazard shipments cited earlier by Western officials.

Before the sanctions were imposed in August 1990, after Iraq invaded Kuwait, Iraq was producing around 3.2 million barrels a day, with some 2.7 million

barrels a day for export. Most of Iraq's current oil output is used for domestic consumption.

Diplomatic sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, have told the AP that although most of the Iran-Iraq trade is done on a barter basis, the Iraqis have sometimes insisted on being paid in cash.

That underlines Iraq's worsening shortage of hard currency. U.N. officials estimate that the sanctions have cost Baghdad nearly \$30 billion in lost oil revenues since they were imposed nearly three years ago.

The estimated 30,000 barrels of oil a day reported going to Iran and Turkey is worth around \$340,000 at current market prices.

Diplomatic and business sources told the Associated Press in early March that Iran was shipping food worth millions of dollars into Iraq in the sanction-busting barter trade, which also includes Iraqi fertilizer and cement.

But well-informed travellers from Iraq said that Baghdad sells its produce in the barter deals at cut-rate prices, often as much as 40 to 50 per cent below market value. Whether that includes the reported oil shipment is not known.

The travellers say the trade with Iran centres on the border towns of Khisrawi, 130 kilometres northeast of Baghdad, and Khorramshahr, near the southern port city of Basra.

Western intelligence officials noted recently that as many as 200 trucks a day were hauling foodstuffs and other goods into Iraq from Iran and that volume was expected to increase.

The sources said that another crossing point at the Iranian border town of Qasr-e Shirin, north of Khosrawi, was also recently reopened. But it was not clear whether that is also being used to break the sanctions.

The trade between Iran and Iraq, who were adversaries in the 1980-88 Gulf war, is apparently sanctioned by both governments despite increasingly fractious relations between them.

In recent weeks, Tehran has twice mounted air raids on anti-regime forces based in Iraq. On March 13, Iranian warplanes bombed a Kurdish guerrilla base in northern Iraq and on May 25 two bases of the Mujahedeen-e-Khalq, the main opposition movement.

Iran claims the raids were in retaliation for attacks on targets in Iran by the Iraq-based rebels. Baghdad charges that Tehran is aiding Shiite Muslim rebels in the south and that Revolutionary Guards formations have repeatedly thrust into northern Iraq against the Kurds.

Despite the animosity, both countries apparently find value in continuing the illicit trade, Iraq because its economy is increasingly falling apart because of the sanctions, Iran because it does not want to see Iraq disintegrate. Iran's economy is also in poor shape right now.

Both governments are also considered hostile by the United States and they may be willing to cooperate with each other to counter U.S. efforts to isolate them.

Turkey, a key component in the U.S.-led alliance against Iraq, has been showing signs of improving its ties with Baghdad recently.

The 1990 closure of two oil export pipelines from Iraq through Turkey has cost Ankara hundreds of millions of dollars.

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KUWAITI GAMES: A detachment of U.S. Marines, as part of a 4,200-strong contingent, arrive at Shuwaibah harbor, some 500 kilometres from Kuwait City Monday to join British and Kuwaiti forces for a weeklong air, ground and naval manoeuvres code-named Eagle Mace (AFP photo)

Suspended Lebanese daily reappears on newsstands

BEIRUT (AP) — Opposition newspaper Nidaa Al Watan reappeared on Beirut's newsstands Monday after a five-week suspension.

A court last week terminated Nidaa Al Watan's suspension, but ruled that it still will go on trial on charges of instigating sectarian hatreds.

Nidaa Al Watan was closed April 30, a day after its twin television station the Independent Company Network (ICN) was shut down. ICN is still off the air.

The two outlets were accused by the Justice Ministry of "instigating the sectarian hatreds that helped fan the flames of the civil war," a charge that carries a maximum penalty of indefinite closure.

Both are owned by right-wing Maronite Catholic billionaire businessman Henri Sfeir, a presidential aspirant who failed to win a parliament seat in Lebanon's last general elections in September.

Their closure marked the first crackdown on news organisations since the eruption of the 1975-1990 civil war. Lebanon boasts the freest media in the Middle East.

The leftist daily Al Safir, which has been critical of the government's performance on post-civil war reconstruction, was closed for a week in May.

But it beat government orders by publishing during the suspension period under the name of Beirut Al Masaa, a long-closed newspaper whose publisher donated his franchise to Al Safir.

Al Safir still is on trial for publishing alleged Israeli proposals made during the ninth round of Middle East peace talks outlining its conditions for withdrawing from an enclave Israel occupies in South Lebanon.

Justice Minister Bahij Tabbara contended the proposals constituted a secret document dealing with state security. If convicted, Al Safir could be closed for six months.

The latest government-media skirmish came on May 28, when the pro-Syrian Al Sharq daily was closed. The order was rescinded three hours later.

Iran may boycott Atlanta Olympics

NICOSIA (R) — Iran will boycott the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta if the United States maintains its "hostile stance," Iran's sports chief has said.

Vice-President Hassan Ghafouri-Fard, who heads the sports organisation, told Iran's official news agency IRNA that the question of participation in the games had not been discussed in the cabinet yet.

But he "warned that if the hostile stance of the United States towards Iran persists, the Islamic Republic will not participate in the 1996 Atlanta Olympics," IRNA said Sunday.

Iran's Islamic leader boycotted the 1980 Olympics in Moscow and the 1984 games in Los Angeles on political grounds.

But President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani in April accused the United States of mixing sports with politics after Iran said U.S. officials refused to issue visas for Iranian wrestlers who wanted to compete in an international tournament there.

Iran's relations with the United States, hostile since its 1979 Islamic revolution, have worsened since President Bill Clinton took office in January. Washington brands Tehran an international outlaw, Iran calls the United States a bully.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Syrian minister likens Israel to Nazis

DAMASCUS (AP) — Information Minister Mohammad Salman on Monday likened Israel's policies toward Arabs in the occupied territories to those of the Nazis. Inaugurating a two-day conference of Mediterranean news agencies, Mr. Salman said Israel acts as "though it is above international law." It was one of the harshest statements made by Syrian officials against Israel since the start of the Middle East peace process. "Israeli brutal practices and iron fist policy are reminiscent of Nazi methods," Mr. Salman said. "Peace runs counter to occupation and repression." He urged cooperation among Mediterranean nations for "establishing peace in the region and eliminating phenomena of aggression and hegemony all over the world." A number of news agencies were attending the meeting. They included some European agencies such as ANSA of Italy, Agence France Presse and Spain's EFE.

35 heads of state to attend June 28 OAU summit

CAIRO (AP) — Thirty-five African heads of state have so far agreed to attend the June 28 Organisation of African Unity (OAU) summit in Cairo, Foreign Minister Amr Musa said Monday. The OAU has 51 members and Mr. Musa said that it was possible that the number of attending heads of states will increase. The OAU holds a summit annually. It is being held in Cairo because President Hosni Mubarak has been chosen as head of the organisation for the next year.

Djibouti said refusing to admit rescue ship

PRAGUE (R) — The Czech Foreign Ministry said Monday a Czech merchant vessel which rescued 32 shipwrecked Somalis was stranded off Djibouti with meagre supplies after being denied access by port authorities. "It is unclear why the Djibouti authorities have refused to let the ship in," ministry official Jan Hlousek told Reuters. "They are probably afraid that the ship is bringing in refugees." He said the Czech ship Otava rescued the Somalis, including two pregnant women and a child, from a vessel which was on its way from the Kenyan port of Mombasa to Djibouti, and sank in the Gulf of Aden Friday. The Otava first tried to land at Aden in Yemen but it was denied access by the port authorities. "The Czech republic has passed an official note to France who has a large embassy in Djibouti asking to help," Hlousek said. "If our ship is not admitted in the port by Tuesday, it will run out of its food and water supplies and will have to declare a state of emergency." The Czech ship, which had a crew of 26 was anchored 12 miles off Djibouti, he said.

Algeria-Morocco frontier to be fixed in 1993

ALGIERS (R) — Algeria expects to definitely fix its frontier with Morocco within the next six months, the interior minister said Sunday. "Contacts are currently being made with Morocco to determine before the end of the year the demarcation line separating the two countries," Mohammed Hardi said, quoted by the official news agency APS. Morocco finally ratified the convention determining the 1,200-kilometre frontier last June. 11 years after it was signed by King Hassan and Huari Boumedienne, then president of Algeria. Algeria ratified the convention in 1973 but Morocco held back because of Algeria's support for Polisario Front guerrillas fighting for independence in the Western Sahara.

Romania sends military hospital to Somalia

BUCHAREST (R) — Romania will send a military hospital and medical staff to Somalia this week to aid both United Nations peacekeeping forces and civilians there, a Romanian official said Monday. "A fully-equipped military hospital is now being loaded on a ship in the Black Sea port of Constanta, ready to sail to Somalia as part of Romania's support for the UNOSOM (U.N. Operation in Somalia)," Defence Ministry spokesman Colonel Ion Moise told Reuters. Col. Moise said some 230 medical staff, including 105 military doctors would staff the 100-bed field hospital and provide medical assistance to both U.N. peacekeepers and civilians in Somalia.

Shell to help study gas development in Iran

NICOSIA (AP) — Tehran's state-owned National Iranian Oil Company and the British-Dutch Shell group have agreed to conduct a six-month study on the development of Iran's North Pars gas field, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) reported Monday. The respected weekly newsletter said the field, in shallow waters in the Gulf facing the Iranian coast near the southern city of Kangan, contains estimated reserves of some 1.4 trillion cubic metres of dry gas with little condensate.

Court will not reinstate Vincennes case

WASHINGTON (AP) — The supreme court refused Monday to reinstate a lawsuit against the federal government by families of people killed when the USS Vincennes shot down an Iranian airliner over the Gulf in 1988. The court, without comment, rejected the relatives' argument that the United States was not at war with Iran and therefore is not immune from lawsuits over combat injuries. All 290 people aboard the Iran Air jet were killed when crew members of the American cruiser USS Vincennes mistook the plane for an Iranian fighter and shot it down July 3, 1988.

Iran seeking to set up regional airline

NICOSIA (R) — Iran Monday proposed the formation of a joint airline with Turkey, Pakistan, Afghanistan and six former Soviet republics, its IRNA news agency said. IRNA quoted Akram Najafi, an Iranian civil aviation official, as saying Iran made the proposal to its partners in the 10-member Economic Cooperation Organisation (ECO) at the opening of a two-day meeting of their air transport officials in Tehran. Ms. Najafi said the other members welcomed the idea of setting up the company, which would be called "Ecoair," in Tehran. She said it initially would handle trade and carry mail among the 10 members and later expand to other countries. IRNA reported. ECO was founded by Iran, Pakistan and Turkey in 1965. Joined last year by Afghanistan and the former Soviet republics of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, it groups 300 million people from Europe to China.

Aideed — a thorn in U.N.'s flesh

NAIROBI (R) — Belligerent warlord Mohammad Farah Aideed, whose followers are blamed by Pakistan for killing 22 peacekeeping troops, has been called by diplomats the biggest obstacle to peacekeeping efforts in Somalia.

Shortly after the clashes, General Aideed went on radio and accused U.N. forces of killing and wounding large numbers of civilians.

"It is unfortunate that these people, including women, children and others, were fired on by UNOSOM (U.N. Operation in Somalia) and many died, while others were injured," Gen. Aideed said.

"Members of the U.S. and Pakistani forces who committed this ugly act also died and others were injured."

He ended his address by "advising UNOSOM to remove its forces from the places they captured today and other sensitive places where people live."

These include the police command centre, a former Somali army headquarters, and the centre of the city. The deaths of at least 22 Pakistanis and 23 Somalis underlined the Horn of Africa country's turbulence and the dominant role Gen. Aideed, a former army officer, as a diplomat who invaded from Ethiopia in late 1990 to fight dictator Mohammad Siad Barre.

But by the time he reached Mogadishu early in 1991, Mr. Aideed's ally, Ali Mahdi Mohammad, had declared himself president.

Gen. Aideed's resentment of Mr. Ali Mahdi led to a clan war which killed an estimated 30,000 people in four months of heavy fighting and a famine which claimed 10 times that number of lives.

When a small contingent of Pakistani troops was sent last year to try to open up food corridors, they were held virtual prisoners by Gen. Aideed's forces until an American-led multinational force landed on the beaches of Mogadishu.

Gen. Aideed is the most powerful warlord in the country.

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Excerpts from U.N. resolution on Somalia

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The U.N. Security Council adopted a resolution Sunday calling for punishment of those responsible for attacks on U.N. peacekeepers in Somalia.

Following are operative parts of the resolution: The Security Council...

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, 1. Strongly condemns the unprovoked armed attacks against the personnel of the U.N. Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II) on 5 June 1993 which appear to have been part of a calculated and premeditated series of ceasefire violations to prevent by intimidation UNOSOM II from carrying out its mandate as provided for in Resolution 814 (1993).

2. Expresses its condolences to the government and people of Pakistan and the families of the UNOSOM II personnel who have lost their lives.

3. Reemphasises the crucial importance of the early implementation of the disarmament of all Somali parties, including movements and factions, in accordance with paragraphs 56-59 of the report of the secretary-general of 3 March 1993, and of neutralising radio broadcasting systems that contribute to the violence and attacks directed against UNOSOM II.

4. Demands once again that all Somali parties, including movements and factions, comply fully with the commitments they have undertaken in the agreements they concluded at the informal preparatory meeting on Somali political reconciliation in Addis Ababa, and in particular with their agreement on implementing the ceasefire and on modalities of disarmament (S/15168, annex III).

5. Reaffirms that the secretary-general is authorised under Resolution 814 (1993) to take all necessary measures against all those responsible for the armed attacks referred to in paragraph 1 above, including against those responsible for publicly inciting such attacks, to establish the effective authority of UNOSOM II throughout Somalia, including to secure investigation of their actions and their arrest and detention for prosecution, trial and punishment.

6. Requests the secretary-general urgently to enquire into the incident, with particular emphasis on the role of those factional leaders involved.

7. Encourages the rapid and accelerated deployment of all UNOSOM II contingents to meet the full requirements of 28,000 men, all ranks as well as equipment, as indicated in the secretary-general's report.

8. Urges member states to contribute on an emergency basis, military support and transportation, including armoured personnel carriers, tanks and attack helicopters, to provide UNOSOM II the capability appropriately to confront and deter armed attacks directed against it in the accomplishment of its mandate.

9. Further requests the secretary-general to submit a report to the council on the implementation of the present resolution, if possible within seven days from the date of its adoption.

10. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.

11. Requests the secretary-general to continue to take all necessary measures to ensure the safety of UNOSOM II personnel and to ensure the effective implementation of the resolution.

12. Requests the secretary-general to continue to take all necessary measures to ensure the safety of UNOSOM II personnel and to ensure the effective implementation of the resolution.

| JORDAN TELEVISION | |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Tel: 77111-19 | |
| PROGRAMME TWO | |
| 18:00 | Omniscience |
| 18:30 | Magry |
| 19:00 | News in French |
| 19:15 | Ukhuia |
| 19:30 | News in Hebrew |
| 20:00 | News in Arabic |
| 20:30 | Beckles About |
| 21:10 | Forever Green |
| 22:00 | News in English |
| 22:30 | Feature Film |
| PRAYER TIMES | |
| 05:25 | Fajr (Sunrise) Data |
| 12:34 | Dhuhr |
| 16:15 | 'Asr |
| 17:14 | Maghrib |
| 17:14 | 'Isha |
| CHURCHES | |
| St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swefieh, Tel. 810721 | |
| Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785 | |
| St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590 | |
| Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637481 | |
| De la Salle Church Tel. 661757 | |
| Terrence Church Tel. 622366 | |
| Church of the Annunciation Tel. 622541 | |

| USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Aggile Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 62843 | |
| Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331 | |
| Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261 | |
| St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751 | |
| Armenian International Church Tel. 625226 | |
| Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 824328 | |
| The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Tel. 628234, 624932 | |
| Church of the Nazareth Tel. 675691 | |
| Church of the Redeemer Tel. 638526 | |
| WEATHER | |
| Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology. | |
| It will be partly cloudy and relatively cold, and scattered showers of rain are expected. Winds will be northwesterly moderate to fresh, causing dust in desert areas. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and sea calm. | |
| Min/Max temp. 11/22 Aqaba 21/30 Dserts 12/26 Jordan Valley 19/29 | |
| Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 25, Aqaba 33. Humidity readings: Amman 49 per cent, Aqaba 29 per cent. | |

JORDAN TIMES DAILY

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| AMMAN: | |
| Dr. Youssef Naser | 751144 |
| Dr. Riay Abu Zeina | 894295 |
| Dr. Mohammed Al Aza | 752971 |
| Dr. Youssef Abdo | 694916 |
| Firas pharmacy | 661912 |
| Ferdows pharmacy | 778336 |
| Al Asma pharmacy | 637055 |
| Nairoukh pharmacy | 625672 |
| Al Salam pharmacy | 636720 |
| Yacoub pharmacy | 644945 |
| Shneicam pharmacy | 657660 |
| Nairouh pharmacy | 625672 |
| Najib pharmacy | 647632 |

IRBID:

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Dr. Mohammad Al Hela | (—) |
| Alkuds pharmacy | (—) |

ZARQA:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Dr. Abdul Karim Khashtanich | (—) |
|-----------------------------|-----|

| | |
|-------------------|--------|
| Khalifah pharmacy | 985417 |
|-------------------|--------|

EMERGENCIES

| | |
|----------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Food Control Centre | 637111 |
| Civil Defence Department | 661111 |
| Civil Defence Immediate Rescue | 630341 |
| Civil Defence Emergency | 199 |
| Rescue Police | 192, 621111, 637777 |
| Fire Brigade | 891228 |
| Blood Bank | 75121 |
| Highway Police | 843402 |
| Traffic Police | 896390 |
| Public Security Department | 630321 |
| Hotel Complaints | 665900 |
| Price Complaints | 661176 |
| Water and Sewerage Complaints | 897467 |
| Amman Municipality Complaints | 787111 |
| Telephone Information (directory assistance) | 121 |
| Overseas Calls | 010230 |
| Central Amman Telephone | |



BACCALAUREATE RECEPTION: Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath and Prince Edward of England Monday attend a reception at the Amman Baccalaureate School hosted by the office of the Crown Prince Award at the end of a two-day meeting held to discuss the award programmes. The Princess and the Prince were welcomed in an address delivered by school principal Samia Al Farah. The guests later viewed a slide show depicting the development of the Crown Prince Award and its programmes, which were launched at the Baccalaureate School in 1984. At the recep-

Germany appraises technical aid to Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — A five-member German team of officials led by Gerdobert Liptan Monday opened talks with Jordanian government officials to appraise Bonn's technical and capital aid to Jordan.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that the team met with Ministry of Planning Secretary General Safwan Tougan and a team from the ministry.

Discussions focused on Germany's technical aid to Jordan's agricultural and water projects. Review was made of current schemes being funded under a Jordanian-German technical and capital agreement, as well as the

Japan grants UNRWA \$9m in food aid

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government of Japan Monday, decided to extend \$9 million in a grant to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for the purchase of about 18 thousand tonnes to be distributed to the Palestinian refugees.

This aid is a part of Japan's annual regular food aid to UNRWA since 1953 to relieve the Palestinian refugees from a humanitarian standpoint.

It has so far amounted to over \$100 million.

Japan has extended to UNRWA several forms of financial and technical cooperation including food aid, amounting to approximately \$270 million.

Experts delve into Amman society

Identity continues to surface in exploring various fields

By Sausan Ghoshel
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The growth of Amman into a large urban centre is accompanied with many of the problems of such cities, including the lack of homogeneity, the disparities between rich and poor and the rapid population growth, participants in the conference, "Amman: The City and the Society," concurred Monday.



In 120 years Amman's population rose from a few thousand to over one million (File photo)

The second day of the conference, held at the University of Jordan and organised by CER-MOC, the French Centre for Research on the Contemporary Middle East, discussed the "Ammani" society after spending the previous day tackling the history and morphology of the city, attempting to bring together city and society.

The first session, entitled "Population and Family in the Context of Rapid Urbanisation," addressed migration trends and population growth in Amman; the family structures; the urban context of health during an economic crisis; and the absence of play spaces for children.

"Amman is a city of refugees and immigrants," said Musa Samaha, professor of population studies at the University of Jordan. It has grown from a city of a few thousand to one with a population exceeding one million in less than 120 years, said Dr. Samaha.

This rapid population growth, he explains, is largely due to the influx of immigrants to the city, including Palestinians, Circassians, Syrians, Lebanese, Armenians and rural Transjordanians.

The high natural growth rate is another contributing factor to the distorted population growth, Dr. Samaha added, explaining that despite living in the cities, the immigrants maintained their traditions and customs regarding "high fertility."

Françoise De Bel Air, a researcher at CER-MOC, questioned one of the themes stressed Sunday regarding the dichotomy between east and west Amman. Her study on the family struc-

tures of Jordan understates the east-west dichotomy and instead reveals two extreme types of family structures: One can be found in the northwestern part of Amman and the other is prevalent throughout the rest of the city, she maintained.

In northwest Amman, the families are smaller in size, the category below 15 years of age constitutes less than 40 per cent of the population, the elderly compose a significant percentage of the residents, nuclear family homes are predominant and females exceed males in number, Ms. Bel Air said.

The rest of Amman on the other hand, she added, has a larger family size, a higher percentage of individuals below the age of 15, a smaller percentage of elderly, and a larger male population.

But, Jocelyne De Jong, a representative of the Ford Foundation and a speaker at the same session, returned, in her study on health during economic crises, to suggest an east-west dichotomy, stressing the economic disparities between the two regions.

Ms. De Jong spoke of the improvement in health facilities and situations during the economic boom of Jordan in the 70s and early 80s, which was also a period when the gap between the rich and the poor widened.

The recession and the inflation of the 80s decreased the real income of the population and malnutrition and morbidity worsened, she said.

She asserted that the planning of Amman was done with adults in mind, neglecting the needs of children. "We live in an area where children are not thought of, but parking is thought of and traffic is thought of."

The presence of play space is important for the physical development of the child, Dr. Bisharat said, indicating a need for a shift from focusing primarily on infant mortality to addressing issues of child health and development.

Children's play space is found more in western Amman than in eastern Amman, but some upgrading projects in the east improved the situation, thus, Dr. Bisharat called for more upgrading projects in the area.

The second session, entitled "Urban Space and Social Groups: Cases from Amman," addressed three of the social groups composing Amman, talking about the sense of belonging, homogeneity and identity of such groups.

Asel Sawalha, a professor of anthropology at Yarmouk University, spoke of the dual identity of Palestinian refugees, carrying both a Jordanian passport and a refugee card.

She said Palestinian refugees still identify with the villages of their origin and yearn to return to them. They describe their native villages in detail, as if they were looking at them, she added.

The refugees, however, do not identify with Amman as their city; their sense of belonging does not extend beyond the neighbourhood or camp they are living in, Dr. Sawalha said.

She stressed the role women play in the camp to reproduce the Palestinian identity through their traditional clothing and maintaining the dialect of their villages.

Anna Ohannessian-Charpin of CER-MOC spoke on the development of the Armenian community in Amman, who, when they first came to the city, had nothing in common but their origin and cultural identity.

Institutions such as the church, the school and clubs gave Armenians the label of a community and spatially marked their presence, she said. The development of economic networks enabled Armenians to stay in Amman, as well as created certain solidarity links and contacts with the wider society of the city, Ms. Ohannessian-Charpin added.

An Ammani identity, she stated, could be developed among the third generation of Armenian immigrants; it was not detected among the first and second.

Seteney Shami, a professor of anthropology at Yarmouk University, said that Circassians stress the Ammani identity as a feeling of their belonging to Jordan. The Circassian conviction of having established Amman

makes them feel they have inalienable rights to citizenship, she added.

Dr. Shami also spoke of existing differentiations between dialect groups of Circassians, the causes of which are cultural, the time of settlement in Jordan, and the area of settlement — Amman or a village.

Those who settled in Amman, showed signs of assimilation into the Arab community, such as intermarriage and patterns of dressing. In addition, this group of Circassians was politically more powerful than those living in Jordanian villages.

Discussion at the conclusion of the second day of conference again raised the issue of the homogeneity of Amman and the east-west dichotomy.

Taleb Rifai, professor of architecture at the University of Jordan, expressed concern over what he saw as cultural differences between east and west, in terms of outlook and behaviour.

He is looking forward to the placing of activities in downtown Amman, which will attract people from the east and west hoping that this will bring them together.

The conference, co-sponsored by CER-MOC, the Department of Architecture and the Agha Khan Unit for Architecture at the University of Jordan, will continue Tuesday, discussing the economy and society of the city, and the politics and policies of Amman.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Egyptian, Lebanese foreign ministers leave for home

AMMAN (Petra) — The foreign ministers of Egypt and Lebanon Amr Musa and Fares Bouez left Amman for home Monday morning after taking part in the Arab parties coordination meeting in Amman Sunday. Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa, who also took part in the meeting, had left for home Sunday evening.

Minister discusses labour issues with officials

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour Khaled Ghazawi met in his office Monday with the directors of labour departments and discussed questions related to unemployment, foreign labour, and the needs of the Jordanian labour market. The minister listened to a briefing by the various directors about the general difficulties they face and their needs in carrying out their duties. The positive and negative aspects of employing guest workers in Jordan were fully examined at the meeting.

Education panel to review math, science text publishing

AMMAN (Petra) — The Education Council of the Ministry of Education will hold a meeting Tuesday, presided over by Minister of Education and Higher Education Khaled Al Omari. Ministry sources said that the question of cooperating with foreign publishing houses to print mathematics and science books will be among the main topics discussed. Also on the agenda is the teaching of French at the primary level in government schools.

Iraqi envoy meets ministers

AMMAN (Petra) — The Iraqi ambassador to Jordan Monday called on Justice Minister Rafeh Al Wazani and Minister of Social Development Mohammad Ssour. He discussed with them Iraqi-Jordanian cooperation in justice and social development affairs.

37,681 slaughtered sheep arrive from Saudi Arabia

AMMAN (Petra) — Seventy-five refrigerated trucks hauling slaughtered sheep during the Eid Al Adha ceremonies in Saudi Arabia arrived in Amman Sunday for distribution to the needy in Jordan. Faisal Khasawneh, a governor at the Ministry of Interior and head of a committee supervising the distribution, said the 37,681 sheep will be distributed to poor families in the Amman, Balqa, Maan, Mafraq, Irbid, Karak, Zarqa, and Tafleeh governorates.

Greek economic team to visit Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — A Greek economic delegation led by the president of the Arab Greek Chamber of Commerce will visit Jordan by the middle of June. The delegation is expected to hold two-day meetings with several Jordanian businessmen on promoting trade ties between Jordan and Greece.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Art exhibition by Lebanese artist Shukrallah Fatouh at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by artists Nawal Kattan and Dodi Tabbaa at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of works by more than 40 plastic artists from Iraq at Alka Art Gallery.
- ★ Photography exhibition entitled "Scenes from Palestine" at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Art exhibition by Marianne Naerobout at the British Council.

FILM

- ★ English-subtitled German film entitled "Die Verlorene Ehre Der Katharina Bäum" at 7:30 p.m. at the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation's Scientific and Cultural Centre (1975, 106 min.)

Government endorses new decentralised purchase policy

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government has just endorsed a new system for governing the purchases of various equipment for its offices in various departments.

Considered an update to the 1978 system, the new plan caters to new developments, according to Abdul Hamid Hiyari, director of the Government Procurement Office.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Mr. Hiyari said the amended system makes it

incumbent on each and every department to give preference to locally-produced materials and equipment provided they meet quality standards and specifications.

The new system falls within the guidelines of the reforms being introduced to the public organisation in Jordan, said Mr. Hiyari.

Among the features of the new plan is the expanded authority given to each department to

make its own purchases a hitherto unknown decentralised policy, said Mr. Hiyari.

He said the new system stipulates the announcement of tenders to invite bids from local bidders and defines procedures for delivery and payment for the materials.

Furthermore it provides for training courses for new civil servants employed in the purchases departments.

Gift of French teaching aids to University of Jordan forms nucleus of new library

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Modern Language Centre at the University of Jordan Monday received a gift of a collection of French books, dictionaries and teaching aids from the French Government.

The gift was presented by French Cultural Attaché in Jordan Felipe Cardinal to University of Jordan President Fawzi Gharaiheb who voiced the university's appreciation.

University sources said that the gift together with a donation of 2,500 French books and tapes presented earlier to the centre constitute the nucleus for a

French library benefiting the foreign language students.

He said the gift was within the framework of the French-Jordanian cultural cooperation agreement.

The French government, he noted, had earlier offered the university four scholarships for post-graduate students to obtain doctorate degrees in literature and linguistics and in teaching French at the centre.

The Paris government also offered training courses for the centre's teachers and supplied French instructors.

Meanwhile Louis Muqattash the director of the English Department at the university, announced that the Japanese language was the latest to be offered at the Modern Languages Centre.

Students from the university and outside are being offered courses in French, German, Italian, Spanish, Russian, Turkish, Persian, Hebrew and Japanese at the centre, founded in 1988, said Dr. Muqattash.

He said the university of Jordan is the first among Arab universities to introduce Japanese language courses to students.



The Aqaba Central Power Plant is part of the first stage of the regional power linkage project between Jordan, Egypt, Syria, Iraq and Turkey

Arab energy officials to approve \$220 m power grid linkage

AMMAN (J.T.) — Ministers of energy and electricity from Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Egypt and Turkey are expected to hold a meeting in Amman Saturday to discuss and approve a draft agreement on the linkage of their power grids at an estimated cost of \$220 million.

The five countries met in Amman last month for a three-day technical committee meeting and finalised the draft agreement, said Mohammad Azzam, senior engineer at the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA), which hosted the meetings.

Mr. Azzam said the ministers will review the final draft on the exchange of electric power and will study another agreement on the establishment of power networks.

He said the ministers are expected to endorse and sign the

two drafts which are necessary for the start of work on the two-stage plan.

The linkage plan, which will be financed by the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD), will be completed in 1998.

In their Damascus meeting last year, the five ministers signed a protocol, giving the go-ahead for the project.



Black plastic 'mulch' is a costly commodity for Jordan's farmers, but recycling of plastic waste may prove quite cost-beneficial (File photo)

25% in hard currency can be saved by recycling plastic waste — study

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A four-year study has proved that Jordan can save up to 25 per cent in hard currency by recycling plastic waste and using it as plastic film (cover) for greenhouse crops.

According to a spokesman for the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), RSS scientists will explain the results of the study on the development of plastic film in a workshop on plastic waste recycling for use as multi-layer plastic film for agriculture.

The RSS spokesman told the Jordan Times that addressing the workshop opening session, which

began Monday, Saeed Alloush, the RSS vice-president, said that the project is considered one link in a long chain of projects aimed at helping the country recycle used and waste materials.

Such practice, Dr. Alloush said, should help the Kingdom stem environmental pollution and save a great deal of hard currency spent on importing raw materials for industry.

According to the spokesman, those participating in the workshop represented various plastic industries, the Ministry of Agriculture, Jordanian universities, as well as the Canadian International Development Research Centre (IDRC).

He noted that the RSS will be willing to provide information and assistance to Jordanian industries on plastic film.

By recycling the waste, these industries can find new jobs for the unemployed in the Kingdom, the spokesman added.

According to the spokesman, plastic materials used in Jordanian industries can provide 60 per cent of the raw plastic needed to make plastic sheets for crop growing, especially in the Jordan Valley.

The four-year study was conducted by the RSS in cooperation with McGill University of Canada and funded by IDRC.

Extreme abstraction depicts exhibit

By Najwa Kefaya
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Ahmad Ibrahim, Lebanon's ambassador to Jordan Sunday opened an exhibition of Lebanese artist Shukrallah Fatouh at the exhibition hall of the Royal Cultural Centre.

Many layers of dark colours with a black base and repeated usage of rectangular brush strokes accumulate over each other. This added to the extreme abstraction which characterises this exhibition, creates confusion and unrest at first sight.

It takes some time before the viewer's eyes adapt to his style. But once this happens, the imagination starts guiding this viewer behind the canvas to what the painter may have put in that painting and wanted to express to finally find the woman figure, very vaguely repeated in about 20 of his 36 acrylic paintings.

Two of these "woman" images stand out clearly among the rest. They are "Daisy 1" and "Daisy 2."

Unlike the rest, these two nude figures attract one's attention by their simplicity, modesty and softness.

Nature is reproduced in this exhibition, but the way the artist

sees it in its gloomy and dark side.

The impact of the 15 years of civil war which destroyed the once beautiful landscapes of Lebanon is clearly reflected in the other 13 paintings of nature and still life.

The exhibition runs until June 10.

KLM resumes operation to Amman

AMMAN — KLM Royal Dutch Airlines has resumed its operation to Queen Alia International Airport as of yesterday June 7th.

The non-stop Airbus 310 flight will be serving Dubai every Monday and Amsterdam every Tuesday. KLM offers intercontinental business and tourist class.

FREEDOM INFORMATION ACT

Release of documents after cold war could help thaw public, government relations

By Tim Weiner

WASHINGTON — Historians of the cold war say they know little of how the long struggle began. They know little of how it ended. And they know little of what happened in between. Their ignorance, they say, stems from the system of keeping government documents secret, itself a creature of the cold war.

Behind double-locked steel doors with classified combinations, among countless cartons of documents stamped top secret, are answers to fundamental questions about the \$10 trillion arms race, the United States intelligence community and paramilitary operations carried out from Afghanistan to Zaire. Scholars, reporters and ordinary citizens hammer at the vaults in vain.

Because the Central Intelligence Agency, the Pentagon and the State Department have refused to declassify millions of their records, those who seek the history of the cold war are like medieval map-makers trying to chart an unknown world.

They file thousands of requests for documents under the Freedom of Information Act, a 1966 law designed to give Americans access to federal files. But most requests are futile, marked by decade-long delays, ending in de-

nials on the grounds that disclosure would gravely damage national security.

"The system is without a sense of decency or democracy," said Barton J. Bernstein, director of Stanford University's international relations programme, who recently was denied records from the 1940's on national security grounds.

With archives in Moscow and Beijing disclosing secret documents, pressure for openness is building in Washington. The vault may be opening a crack. President Bill Clinton told the national-security bureaucracy this month that with the end of the cold war, it was time to revise the system that keeps history under seal.

More is at stake than a cold war concept of national security. The release of the documentary history of the cold war could help dispel a pervasive public belief that the government has lied about matters ranging from the assassination of John F. Kennedy to prisoners of war in Vietnam to the existence of flying saucers. (More than a few people believe that the government is covering up the 1947 crash of an alien spacecraft in New Mexico).

But, Mr. Clinton's request for

"Secrecy enables the government to put out an account which is a half-truth. The lies have undermined public faith in government."

increased openness must be carried out by the same intelligence and military officials who create secrets. They dominate a task force led by the bureaucracy in charge of the classification system, Steven Garfinkel, the man who oversees the restrictive secrecy code still in effect. It is they who must answer questions posed by Mr. Clinton: How can documents be declassified as quickly as possible? How can excessive classification be avoided? And, most important, what really needs to be kept secret?

Mr. Garfinkel, the director of the Information Security Oversight Office, said he has no idea

how many secret documents exist. "Perhaps billions," he said. "But the actual number of real secrets is much, much smaller and that is the real issue. The idea that every one of these documents is a real secret is absurd."

Record riddled with holes

What still needs to be kept secret? The designs of weapons systems and intelligence technologies. The details of ongoing treaty negotiations. The names of espionage agents. But not much else, historians argue. Certainly not a 1948 evaluation of the United States intelligence services not the pet names assigned by scientists to 1950's nuclear-weapons tests — all still classified in the name of national security. "It has become ridiculous," said John Lewis Gaddis, a leading cold war scholar who sits on a CIA committee that is declassifying records at a glacial pace. "When you have an excessively capacious definition of secrecy, you lose control in your own mind of what really needs to be kept secret."

While the record remains riddled with holes, historians cannot know the minds of the Americans who led the cold war. "We don't

"It has become ridiculous. When you have an excessively capacious definition of secrecy, you lose control in your own mind of what really needs to be kept secret."

know how we got into an arms race that caused both sides to spend themselves into ruin," said Priscilla McMillan, a fellow at the Russian Research Centre at Harvard.

No one really knows how the United States decided to send half a million soldiers to Vietnam; the heart of the story remains classified, said John Prados, who has written extensively about national security. "The American people not only have a need but a right to know their history," Mr. Prados said. History can be falsified when

documents disappear, Warren Cohen, a professor of history at Michigan State University, resigned from the State Department historical committee that he headed in 1990 to protest the deletion from the official government history of American foreign relations all mention of the CIA coup that put Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi in power in Iran in 1953.

"Secrecy enables the government to put out an account which is a half-truth," said Mr. Cohen. "The lies have undermined public faith in government."

And that is exactly what happened in the former Soviet Union, said David Holloway, a political scientist who has spent months in Moscow reading recently unearthed records. "Secrecy cost the Soviets enormously," he said. "The people knew the public version of history was a lie. That led to a belief that government is never going to tell you the truth."

Americans, too, grew to mistrust their government during the cold war. Presidents from Eisenhower to Reagan lied to the public about crises like the U-2 spy plane affair, the so-called "missile gap" between the Soviet Union and the United States, the

conduct of the Vietnam War, Watergate, the sale of weapons to Iran. As the official versions crumbled and were replaced by a half-revealed record, conspiracy theories flourished.

If the national-security bureaucracy carries out President Clinton's order, the hidden history of the cold war will eventually be revealed, and the credibility gap between the official version and the truth will narrow. But historians remember that an earlier promise of openness by a president proved empty.

"The many abuses of the security system can no longer be tolerated," read a presidential proclamation to strengthen the Freedom of Information Act. "Fundamental to our way of life is the belief that when information which properly belongs to the public is systematically withheld by those in power, the people soon become ignorant of their own affairs, distrustful of those who manage them and — eventually — incapable of determining their own destinies."

The promise was made in 1972 by Richard M. Nixon whose presidency would fall two years later upon the sword and shield of secrecy — The Washington Post.

"The many abuses of the security system can no longer be tolerated. Fundamental to our way of life is the belief that when information which properly belongs to the public is systematically withheld by those in power, the people soon become ignorant of their own affairs, distrustful of those who manage them and — eventually — incapable of determining their own destinies."

The earth summit one year later

DID IT MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

By Paul Raeburn
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — A year ago, the streets of Rio de Janeiro hummed, not with the music of Brazil's annual carnival, but with the boisterous voices of environmentalists from around the world and the fanfare for the largest gathering of world leaders in history.

The occasion was the United Nations earth summit. For two weeks last June, Rio was the unofficial environmental capital of the world. Diplomats caucused in all-night sessions at Rio's cavernous Convention Centre, while activists encamped in brightly coloured tents along Flamengo Beach, in the shadow of sugar loaf.

The summit was marked by bitter discord over the role of the United States, which was criticised by activists and by its allies for its efforts to block or weaken the earth summit's two key treaties.

The memory of the disputes has now faded, and the diplomatic limousines that clogged the streets of Copacabana and Ipanema are gone. But the summit's legacy survives, and it is slowly beginning to reshape international affairs, participants say.

On June 14, the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development — created to carry out the summit's goals — will hold its first meeting in New York.

"It's starting to happen," said Scott Hajost, international counsel for the Environmental Defense Fund. But, he said, "it's going to be a good while before you can actually stand back and say, o.k., what have you accomplished? I think we're still in the building process here."

The summit's treaties — one designed to forestall the greenhouse effect, and another to protect the world's biological diversity, its disappearing plant and animal species — are moving close to ratification by enough nations to bring the treaties into force.

On earth day in April, President Bill Clinton reversed the Bush administration positions on the treaties. The biological diversity treaty, Mr. Clinton said, "is critically important ... not only

because of what it will do to preserve species, but because of opportunities it offers for cutting-edge companies whose research creates new medicines, new products and new jobs."

Saying that the United States "walked away from the treaty" in Rio, Mr. Clinton announced that the United States would sign it. On the threat of global warming, Mr. Clinton committed the United States "to reducing our emissions of greenhouse gases to their 1990 levels by the year 2000."

President Bush had refused to make those commitments, breaking with Japan and the Europeans, who signed the biodiversity treaty and pledged greenhouse gas reductions.

But the treaties are only one part of what was accomplished in

Rio, environmentalists say.

"The connection between international security, environmental security and human welfare broadly was made at the earth summit, and that thinking will influence decisions for decades to come," said Michael Oppenheimer, a scientist with the Environmental Defence Fund in New York.

The treaties "don't solve the problems they were intended to solve, but they are important first steps," said Mr. Oppenheimer, an expert on global warming.

William K. Reilly, the former administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the head of the U.S. delegation in Rio, said that the Bush administration came very close to signing the biodiversity treaty at the sum-

mit.

"We had a substantive position on biological diversity," Mr. Reilly said in a recent interview. "I thought there were many ways out of it, but the truth was (the White House) didn't want a way out of it."

During the first few days of the summit, Mr. Reilly struggled behind the scenes to try to eliminate the obstacles in the way of U.S. support for the treaty. But he was stopped when a White House official leaked a memo revealing Mr. Reilly's plans.

Later, Brent Scowcroft, then the president's national security adviser, told Mr. Reilly, "We could have done what you wanted, but for the leak. We could fixed this."

Mr. Bush's opposition to the biodiversity treaty became one of the top stories of the summit, and the word "biodiversity" appeared on front pages around the world.

When Mr. Reilly found himself in a limousine with the president in Rio, Mr. Reilly said, jokingly, "well, Mr. President ... I think you can fairly say with a smile that no one's done more for public understanding of that concept than you, sir." The president laughed; but his position didn't change.

One of the key unanswered questions following the summit is whether the developed nations will make substantial financial contributions towards cleaning up the environment in developing countries, which have few resources of their own.

Europe, Japan and the United States pledged hundreds of millions of dollars towards that end at the Rio summit, but little of the money has been spent.

"How much money there is and where it's gone is still very much a subject of debate," said Mr. Hajost.

One of the key aims of the earth summit was to bring environmental concerns into all areas of international affairs, from national security to foreign aid. The record there is mixed, said Mr. Hajost.

Governments and the United Nations are slowly beginning to include environmental concerns in their planning, he said, but one key agency — the World Bank — has not.

The bank, the major donor of foreign aid to developing nations, has said it would support projects that are economically sustainable — that is, they don't deplete resources or produce unmanageable quantities of waste or toxic emissions.

Whether they're following those policies is another question, Mr. Hajost said. "Every conclusion is that the World Bank, despite nice policies in some cases, is not spending its portfolio in ways that are truly environmentally sustainable," he said.

The Clinton administration has expressed concern about this problem and is likely to use its influence to try to change the World Bank. Mr. Hajost said.

company called for shipments of 2,000 tonnes," said Venyamin Tralio, head of the local Environmental Inspection Service.

"Not everyone takes us seriously. So far our service consists of an inspector and myself. We have no car, our pay is low, our phone was disconnected for months because the Environment Ministry in Kiev had no money to pay the bills."

The shipments have caused concern among Ukrainians, with newspapers warning residents not to touch paint or abandoned refrigerators if their origin is unknown.

Commentators have urged the government to adhere to international agreements on environmental control.

"If this is not done quickly, Ukraine will soon become Europe's largest dump," said the daily Molod Ukraina.

West gives Latvia qualified backing on voting laws

By Vanora Bennett
Reuters

RIGA, Latvia — Is Latvia, a tiny Baltic state ruled by Moscow for five decades, violating human rights by refusing to let Russian settlers vote this weekend in its first post-Soviet elections?

Yes, say Russian President Boris Yeltsin, who has called the voting restrictions "a basis for ethnic cleansing." Latvia's mightiest neighbour says the rules are a reason to delay the withdrawal of the last 23,000 former Soviet troops from Latvia.

No, say international human rights reports, western diplomats and Latvia itself. They believe the state has enough historical grievances to justify a cautious approach to the Russians who make up a third of the 2.7 million population.

Independent Latvia was annexed by the Soviet Union in 1940 after a secret pact with Nazi Germany. Soviet repression forced hundreds of thousands of Latvians to emigrate or sent them to their deaths in labour camps.

The number of Latvians shrank by a third, while Russian immigrants took their place. Latvians now make up just 52 per cent of the republic's population.

"This puts Latvia in a unique position," said one diplomat. "It is not easy to revive your culture and language when you have become almost a minority in your own country."

"For political stability it is important that Latvians have a majority," said Ojars Kehris, a senior member of Latvian Way, the centre-right coalition tipped to win the June 5-6 poll.

Latvia has laid down tough rules for the local Russians. Only about 300,000 — those who can prove that they or their families lived in the republic before 1940 — have automatic citizenship.

The rest can apply for naturalisation after the parliamentary elections if they have lived in Latvia for 16 years and can pass a language test.

But a report prepared by the Conference for Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) said the rules were not strict enough to merit accusations of human rights abuses.

"The (Russian) fear of marginalisation by denial of citizenship is real, and in some cases well-founded," it said. "It is this sense of insecurity rather than any gross violation of human rights that is most characteristic of the situation in Latvia today."

Many Russians fear non-citizens will be excluded from a sell-off of state property after the vote. Ninety-three per cent of the local Russians have lived in Latvia for over 16 years.

The CSCE wants Latvia to pass a final citizenship law as soon as possible after the elections and say Russians should be allowed to participate in privatisation.

Its report recommended a more clement five-year residence requirement, saying this would have a positive psychological impact on Russians and make little difference to Latvia.

It also advised Latvia to clamp down on individual abuses, saying that some over-zealous officials had turned away Russians and even Latvians without



good reason. Latvia is keen to have a clean record on human rights. It hopes a first step can be taken by following neighbouring Estonia into the Council of Europe.

"As long as they stick reasonably close to the CSCE line when they pass a final citizenship law, the Council of Europe may well say it has no objection," a European diplomat said.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Royal Automobile Club of Jordan and the organising committee of the Jordan International Rally 1993, which took place on May 27, and 28, wish to thank the following bodies for their efforts in making the Jordan Rally a great success:

Ministry of Interior
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Public Security Directorate
Royal Jordanian Airlines
Greater Amman Municipality
Jordan Armed Forces
Royal Jordan Air Force
Civil Defence Directorate
Special Communications Commission
Jordan Military Sports Council
Highway Patrol
Jordan Television and Radio Jordan
Capital Police
Desert Police
Telecommunication Corp. (TCC)
Daily and weekly local and Arabic media
Sports section: T.V., Radio & Press
R.J. Reynolds Ltd.
Jordan Tobacco & Cigarette Co.
Computer Applications Technical Services (CATS)
Technical Equipment and Supplies Company (TESCO)
Jordan French Insurance Co. Ltd.
Aramex International Courier
Forte Grand Hotel
Petra Forum Hotel
Ther Jordan Ice and Aerated Waters Co. Ltd. Pepsi Cola.
Modern Arabian Business Corporation (OKI)
Delta Car Services
Budget Rent a Car
Satellite Car Rental Co.
Ukas Club members.
Members of the Royal Automobile Club of Jordan
Wadi Mousa Sports Club
Shahin Group — KODAK
Jordan Sports Medical Federation
Results team, marshals, scrutineers and officials of stages
All others volunteers

German waste dumped next to Ukrainian farm

By Rostislav Khotin
Reuters

DOLBUNIV, Ukraine — A small tractor pushes vast mounds of waste from Germany into a brick barn, helped by dozens of men and women wielding hoes.

A few dozen metres away cattle graze alongside wheatfields belonging to the "communal" collective farm.

The huge waste area, larger than a football field, is filled with 30 tonnes of material sent to central Ukraine from Germany in apparent violation of German law and international safety standards. Much of it is packed in bags, cardboard boxes or rusting drums.

A foul stench hangs in the air. The women are thoughtfully provided with gas masks. "I'm not afraid of this stuff," said a man identifying himself

only as Volodymyr. "Sure, I have no idea whether these things are dangerous or not, but I intend to continue working here."

Ukrainian officials are furious that the former Soviet republic is being turned into a cheap dumping ground. German ministries are upset that environment laws are being flouted.

The shipment was the second brought in the last month to the region around Rivne, a city of 250,000 about 350 kilometres west of Kiev. A further 250 tonnes now lies at an army base where specialists are examining its contents.

"Children have been seen playing on these heaps and taking away plastic bags full of things," said Mykola Polischuk, head of the local regional authority.

"No complete analysis has yet been conducted on just how toxic these things are. But Germans

are very good at looking after their own affairs. If these materials were safe, they would have been processed in Germany."

Samples of the waste have been taken for analysis to laboratories in Rivne and Kiev.

Local investigators suspect Ukrainian firms handling the waste have accepted sums huge in local terms but minimal for potential German exporters trying to unload toxic cargoes.

An official with the Ukrainian contractor handling the transport and disposal of the waste, a small company called Plastik, refused to answer questions and turned Reuters reporters away from his office.

The environmental group Greenpeace says the shipment came from the East German state of Saxony-Anhalt.

Germany is the world's biggest exporter of waste. It forbids its shipment abroad, but provisions

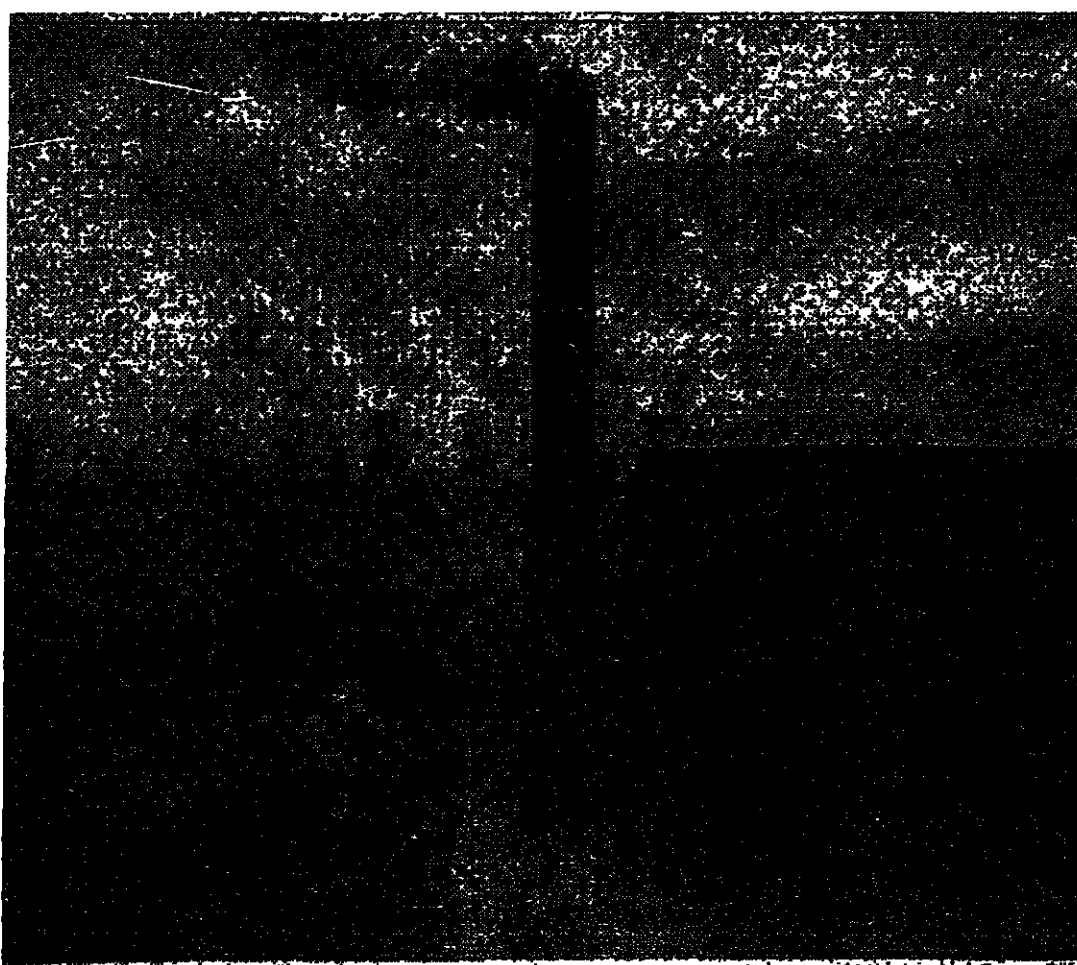
allowing for the consignment of materials for recycling or industrial use are often exploited.

Last month, Germany took back more than 400 tonnes of toxic waste dumped illegally in Romania after protests from the authorities in Bucharest and the international environmentalist group, Greenpeace.

Greenpeace said the chemicals in the Rivne region included spontaneously combustible red and white phosphorus, poisonous liquid mercury, pesticides and acids containing cyanide.

Ukrainian ecological officials, overwhelmed and inexperienced, have ordered the shipments to be stopped but are at a loss how to deal with what already has been dumped.

"As soon as we found out about this, we barred the Germans from bringing the waste — the contract signed by the local



HELL ON EARTH: Industrial complexes like this, fuelled by brown coal, are sources of pollution that need to be eliminated for the sake of our planet (File photo)

Bosnian Serbs still blocking U.N. entry into Gorazde

SARAJEVO (Agencies) — Bosnian Serb forces reportedly shelled two of the six "safe areas" for Muslims, while Bosnian Serb commander Gen. Ratko Mladic Monday again thwarted U.N. efforts to reach one of them.

Gorazde and Srebrenica, Muslim enclaves in eastern Bosnia, came under Serb attack over the weekend, and blocked-off Gorazde was being shelled again Monday for a 12th consecutive day, Bosnian Radio said.

Mladic has been unavailable for any negotiations since Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic tentatively promised last Thursday to allow U.N. military observers into Gorazde.

The attacks in Gorazde killed six civilians, three of them children, and wounded 26 Sunday, Bosnian radio said.

In Srebrenica, five children were wounded in late-night shelling Saturday and another three villages in the enclave were shelled Sunday, the radio said. There was no independent confirmation of the reports.

Commander Barry Frewer,

spokesman for U.N. peacekeepers, said he had no information on Srebrenica, where 300 Canadians are stationed as military observers.

But he noted that heavy machine-gun fire and other shooting was occurring just outside the demarcation line for the "safe area," and that Serb forces continued to block U.N. access to a broken pumping station that would be needed to restore water to Srebrenica.

As summer temperatures climb, aid workers are concerned about outbreaks of typhus and other diseases in the overcrowded filthy town.

Gorazde is the last enclave in eastern Bosnia that Muslims actually control. Zepa and Srebrenica are surrounded by Serb forces who stopped their attacks only after U.N. observers were sent to the areas.

All three towns are among the "safe areas" declared by the U.N. Security Council last Friday for Bosnia's Muslims. The others are Sarajevo, Tuzla in central Bosnia and Bihac in the north-

west.

Gen. Philippe Morillon, U.N. commander for Bosnia-Herzegovina, was in Bihac Monday to review the fighting there, Mr. Frewer said.

Meanwhile Muslim and Croat guns fell largely silent Monday after a 48-hour battle for the central Bosnian town of Travnik.

Civilians emerged from makeshift shelters clutching bottles and cans, braving sporadic sniper fire in their hunt for food and water.

"It's been very bad, terrible," said 16-year-old Adin. "There's only one shop open and we've no water or electricity."

Fighting erupted between the two sides — one-time allies against Bosnia's Serb rebels — Thursday night, rapidly intensifying Friday despite efforts by United Nations peacekeepers and European Community monitors to broker a ceasefire.

A truce agreed Saturday between Croat and Muslim commanders was shattered within hours.

A new ceasefire was agreed

Monday morning so ambulances could retrieve wounded from surrounding villages.

Women cradling loaves of bread dashed across streets as bullets whizzed overhead, and surgeons fought to save the lives of the wounded in the basement of the town's only hospital.

Dr. Mirsad Granov said his staff of 40 Serb, Muslim and Croat doctors and nurses were desperately short of drugs and dressings.

"At least three of the injured died because we were unable to get them out of town for better treatment," he said.

Of the 150 wounded brought in for emergency surgery, 80 per cent were Muslim soldiers, he said.

Granov said he knew there were many more casualties in outlying areas where much of the fighting was concentrated.

The injured lay moaning in the corridors, moved out of wards hit by anti-aircraft cannon shells. One old woman, a bandage on her face and throat, cried out for water.

S. Korea conditionally accepts talks with North

SEOUL (R) — South Korea said Monday it would accept a North Korean offer to hold talks at the border Tuesday but insisted Pyongyang's nuclear programme should top the agenda.

In a letter to the North, South Korean Prime Minister Hwang In-Sung said two Southern delegates would be sent to the border village of Panmunjom at 10 a.m. (0100 GMT) Tuesday.

But he said the two sides should first try to resolve a dispute over the North's refusal to allow access to two suspect nuclear sites — a condition that the North has spurned in more than two weeks of haggling over a meeting.

The North insists the meeting should discuss the exchange of special envoys who in turn would discuss a first-ever meeting between the presidents of North and South.

"We are not sure the North will attend the meeting tomorrow because of the difference in each other's position," a spokesman of the South-North Dialogue Office said.

In his letter, Mr. Hwang expressed regret the North was not willing to introduce the nuclear issue at the proposed talks.

"The nuclear issue is the most urgent problem the South and North should resolve. It will be impossible for the two sides to restore trust without resolution of the nuclear issue," Mr. Hwang said.

"After providing a breakthrough in the nuclear issue at working-level talks, we hope the exchange of special envoys can be discussed," he said.

The North heightened suspicions it was hiding a nuclear weapons programme when it gave three months' notice on March 12 that it would withdraw from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

Though denying any plans to produce nuclear arms, North Korea took the step rather than permit the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to inspect two military sites where the west suspects a nuclear arsenal is being developed.

South Korean officials said

Seoul would seek tougher action unless Pyongyang rejoined the treaty before Saturday, when the withdrawal takes effect.

The United States last week held two rounds of talks with the North in New York in unsuccessful attempts to persuade Pyongyang to change its mind.

South Korean officials say a third round of talks is expected to be held later this week but that chances of a breakthrough are slim.

The United States made it clear that if the discussions failed, it would seek further action against the North by the U.N. Security Council, which last month adopted a resolution calling on Pyongyang to comply with its nuclear inspection obligations under the NPT.

South Korean officials suspect that the North's move to exchange special envoys with South Korea to discuss an inter-Korean summit might be a public relations ploy to divert international attention from its nuclear issue.

Moderate alliance claims most votes in Latvia poll

RIGA, Latvia (R) — A moderate alliance of former communists and émigrés claimed the biggest share of votes in Latvia's first post-Soviet elections but nobody gained an outright majority, the electoral commission said Monday.

Latvian Way, led by parliamentary chairman and former communist ideology chief Anatolijs Gorbunovs, scored 32.38 per cent of the vote in the two-day weekend election.

Most of Latvia's big ethnic Russian community was denied the right to vote because of tough citizenship rules which Moscow has strongly denounced.

Leading members of Latvian Way claimed victory in the poll, and said they would now start looking for coalition partners to help form a new government.

"Tomorrow we will consider

The Farmers' Union won 10.64 per cent of the weekend poll, according to initial figures from the electoral commission.

"We won because we didn't attack anyone, we just presented our programme," said emigre politician Gunars Meierovics, of the World Federation of Free Latvians and Latvian Way.

But hardline parties who seek tough restrictions on the rights of Russians resident in the tiny Baltic state also gained a sizeable share of the vote.

Russians make up more than a third of Latvia's population but only families of pre-war settlers, who number about 300,000, were allowed to vote under strict citizenship rules.

Massive Soviet-era immigration

left Latvians numbering only just over half of their country's 2.7 million people and anxious to keep the political upper hand.

The second biggest party in the weekend poll was the Latvian National Independence Movement (LNNK), with 13.35 per cent of the vote.

The party advocates imposing

strict immigration quotas on nearly a million Russians who settled in Latvia after it was annexed by the Soviet Union in 1940.

The ultra-nationalist Fatherland and Freedom Party got 5.36 per cent of the vote. Some Latvian Way members have privately ruled out cooperation with the LNNK because of the right-wing past of its leader Jozefis Zigmars.

Zigmars, a German emigre who says his father was a Latvian, is being investigated in Germany for involvement in racial hatred.

Another party gaining parliamentary seats after the weekend poll was the Harmony Party of former Foreign Minister Janis Jurkats, which won 11.99 per cent. The party campaigned for inter-ethnic understanding.

The pro-Russian Equal Rights Party got 5.77 per cent of the vote, but the ruling Popular Front, which took Latvia to independence in 1991, polled less than four per cent of the vote — the threshold needed to win seats in parliament.

Italians punish the old guard in local elections

ROME (AP) — In the first big test of voter sentiment following a year of scandals, Italians punished the major parties in mayoral races across the country.

Exit polls indicated that voters were keeping to the pattern set by 1992 parliamentary elections and a few local elections since then: Casting ballots against the Christian Democrats — who have dominated national politics since World War II — the Socialists and former Communists.

Winners in Sunday's vote appeared to be the anti-mafia party, La Rete, and the Milan-based Northern League, which campaigned on an anti-corruption platform.

A trickle of initial results released by the interior ministry supported the projections.

Milan was where the first

arrests in nationwide scandals were made 16 months ago, which have since implicated more than 2,000 politicians and businessmen.

"We were expecting it," said a jubilant Umberto Bossi, whose Northern League triumphed in much of the north, according to exit poll projections done for state and private television networks.

The elections in Milan and 121 other cities and more than 1,000 small towns marked the first time that Italians nationwide directly voted for mayors, a change brought on by a growing cry for electoral reform.

Before Sunday, only small towns in Sicily had directed mayors directly, having instituted the reform two years ago. But amid ever-widening scandals, parliament this year passed a law so that direct elections applied to larger cities as well.

Italians used to vote for political parties, and bosses of the winning party would choose who would take office. The new system — also to be instituted in the senate — is expected to make politicians more accountable.

"Today for the first time in the history of the Italian republic, we vote more for the men than for the parties," wrote Paolo Mieli, Corriere Della Sera's editor-in-chief.

"The results show that everywhere there's an unstoppable tendency to change and a severe punishing of the parties and candidates incapable of making a clean break with the past," said Mario Segni, a reform leader who broke with the Christian Democrats this year.

In Milan, projections indicated that Christian Democrat city council candidates were polling just 8.7 per cent of the vote, down 11 per cent from the last city elections in 1990.

The Democrat Party of the left, also hit by the scandals, was polling 12.3 per cent, down 6.3 from 1990. Socialists appeared to suffer the worst setbacks, tumbling to 2.5 per cent, a 15.9 per cent plunge from 1990 local voting.

OAS considers global embargo on Haiti

MANAGUA (R) — The Organisation of American States (OAS), is weighing whether to recommend a worldwide oil and trade embargo on Haiti to pressure its military-backed government to return to democracy.

At the OAS's 23rd general assembly in Nicaragua Sunday, country after country called for stricter enforcement of an existing OAS embargo while the United States called for a global oil and trade embargo.

The 34-nation organisation slapped a Pan-American trade embargo on Haiti soon after the military toppled elected President Jean-Bertrand Aristide in a September 1991 military coup. But vital oil supplies to the Caribbean nation kept arriving from countries outside the Americas, undermining the embargo.

U.S. President Bill Clinton has directed Secretary of State Warren Christopher to consult with the United Nations "on the possibility of creating a worldwide sanctions programme against Haiti," said U.S. Undersecretary of State Clinton Wharton at the meeting in the Nicaraguan capital.

Canada has proposed going even further against the Port-Au-Prince government, calling for a naval blockade.

Angola says 300 died in rebel train attack

LISBON (R) — About 300 people died in a rebel attack on a train in southern Angola late last month, General Jose de Matos, chief of staff of the armed forces, said Monday.

"UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) attacked a train causing the death, up to yesterday, of about 300 people," he told Portugal's TSP radio in an interview during a visit to Lisbon.

First reports of the attack at Quipungo, 800 kilometres south of the capital Luanda on May 27, put the death toll at about 100 with a further 150 wounded.

"It was a barbaric attack by UNITA, a purely civilian train," Gen. Matos said.

He said the train had run daily on Angola's southernmost railway line between Matola and the Atlantic port of Namibe since independence in 1975 throughout Angola's civil war.

UNITA says the train was carrying soldiers, many of them in civilian clothes, and arms and ammunition to launch a new offensive in southern Angola.

Sanchez de Lozada proclaims Bolivian presidential victory

LA PAZ, Bolivia (AP) — Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada proclaimed victory in the presidential election Monday and promised to work for a government based on social justice and honesty.

The election Sunday was widely considered the most peaceful and open in the country's history.

Thousands of supporters cheered Sanchez de Lozada and his running mate, Victor Hugo Cardenas, as they spoke at a victory rally shortly past midnight.

Sanchez de Lozada's party, the Revolutionary Nationalist Movement, was ahead Monday with at least 35 per cent of the vote, according to provisional results based on 75 per cent of the vote.

Sanchez de Lozada's victory in eight out of nine departments paves the way for his likely victory in a runoff in congress, which will convene Aug. 6 to elect Bolivia's 78th president from among the top three vote-getters Sunday.

Former dictator General Hugo Banzer Suarez, 67, had an estimated 21 per cent, the results showed.

A former military ruler who took power in 1971 after a bloody military coup, Banzer Suarez was removed from office in 1978 by another military ruler and formed Nationalist Democratic Action Party.

Cambodia Royalists stretch lead

PHNOM PENH (R) — Cambodia's Royalist opposition built on its election win with results from the final province Monday but the government has so far refused to concede defeat, repeating demands for an inquiry into "irregularities."

In the far north of the country, suspected Khmer Rouge guerrillas attacked Pakistani U.N. peacekeepers with rockets, mortars and small arms.

Results issued Monday from Kompong Cham Province, the country's largest, gave FUNCINPEC 10 of the 18 seats, with six for the former communists' Cambodian People's Party (CPP). The province is the home of CPP Prime Minister Hun Sen and the party's poor showing there represents a personal political defeat for him.

In Phnom Penh the CPP and its rivals continued to trade verbal punches in what one envoy described as "shadow boxing."

But in the northern province of Preah Vihear, the fighting was in earnest. Pakistani troops have been rushed to reinforce a platoon of colleagues under attack by guerrillas there, U.N. spokesman Eric Falt told a news briefing.

He said 150 to 200 soldiers believed to be Khmer Rouge attacked the platoon in waves early Monday. The Pakistanis returned fire with several thousand rounds and 36 mortar bombs "and are thought to have injured or killed several assailants."

The Khmer Rouge in Preah Vihear come under the control of the notorious one-legged commander, Ta Mok.

The attack on the Pakistani compound and a nearby government army base came just two days after 22 Pakistani soldiers were killed in another U.N. peacekeeping zone, in Somalia, east Africa, in the Cambodian attack two Pakistani peacekeepers were wounded, Mr. Falt said.

One of them lost part of his leg. Figures released by U.N. election organisers gave the main opposition FUNCINPEC party an overall 6.6 per cent lead over its arch-rival, the CPP, which is the political wing of the government installed by Vietnamese invaders in 1979.

With regular ballots from last month's poll counted in all 21 provinces, FUNCINPEC was projected as taking 58 seats in a new 120-seat constituent assembly.

The government will take 51, the minor opposition Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party 10 and one will go to a smaller party, according to projections based on party percentages.

Ballots cast by voters who lost registration cards or had them seized at gunpoint were still being checked. The U.N. said final results were expected Wednesday.

Nine out of 10 registered voters braved threats of violence from Khmer Rouge guerrillas who boycotted the election. They cast their ballots in the hope of ending a quarter of a century of brutality, autocracy and warfare.

U.N. Cambodia chief Yasushi Akashi called the turnout a "stinging rebuke to the men of violence" and certified the voting as free and fair. But the government party has alleged "massive irregularities" and demanded an independent inquiry.

CPP spokesman Sok An said Monday that the party would soon issue evidence to back this claim.

Neutral head of state Prince Norodom Sihanouk last Thursday announced the formation of a coalition government but had to drop the plan the next day.

Bandits hit armoured car company again, bagging \$2.7 million

PONTOISE, France (AP) — Five gunmen in disguise and driving fake police cars kidnapped three armoured car company employees and forced them to hand over \$2.7 million in cash, police said Sunday. The robbery occurred in the western Paris suburb of Pontoise.

Subsequent to the robbery, the three armoured cars were driven off with \$1.8 million. Driving two Alpha Romeos with police insignia and flashing blue lights, the gunmen disguised with false beards and mustaches followed the cashier and two deliverers home and abducted them, officials said.

The bandits took the employees back to the Securipost office, forcing them to open the company's coffers. The gunmen fled with about 10 sacks of cash, after tying up the three. One of the employees freed himself after a half hour and notified police, officials said. Police were investigating but had no suspects. No arrests have been made in the March 1 holdup in which seven bandits took 13 employees hostage at the same depot of Securipost, a subsidiary of the government-owned postal service.

Italian wins Van Cliburn piano contest

FORT WORTH, Texas (R) — Simone Pedroni, a modest 24-year-old from Novara, Italy, making his debut in the United States on Sunday won the prestigious Van Cliburn International Piano Competition. The gold medal was handed to Mr. Pedroni by Fort Worth native Van Cliburn, who began his successful concert career by winning the Tchaikovsky Piano Competition in Moscow in 1958. The silver medalist was Valery Kuleshov, 30, from Moscow, an early favourite. Third place went to Christopher Tyler, 23, of Boston, the only American to reach the finals although seven competed.

After the awards ceremony, the six finalists including Johan Schmidt, 28, of Brussels, Armen Babakhanian of Yerevan, Armenia, and Fabio Bidini, 24, of Arezzo, Italy, addressed a press conference. "I am walking on air," Pedroni said through an interpreter. An experienced concert pianist, he also credited his teachers, who still have a lot to teach him, he said. The Van Cliburn International Piano Competition is held every four years under the auspices of the Van Cliburn Foundation. The first competition was held in 1962, four years after Van Cliburn won his award in Moscow.

Chinese farmer sells mother, wife, daughter

PEKING (R) — A Chinese court has sentenced to death a man who sold his mother, wife and daughter into slavery, an official newspaper said. Liu Lei, from Shishui County in central Sichuan Province, was unable to keep a job and instead scavenged for things to sell on local markets.

Tianjin's Jin Wan Bao said. "After he sold all the objects he had found in his neighbourhood, he decided to sell his family members," the newspaper said. Liu first tricked his wife into accompanying him on a trip to eastern Shandong Province, where he sold her to a farmer for 1,400 yuan (\$245). One year later and short of cash, he told his four-year-old daughter he would take her to see her mother, but instead packed her off to a farmer in Hebei Province for 450 yuan (\$80). Two months later he tricked his mother into thinking she was going to visit her grand-daughter — and sold her to another Hebei farmer for 1,200 yuan (\$210). "Over the years, Liu Lei has abducted and sold 15 women apart from his mother, wife and daughter," the newspaper said, adding that a local judge had given him the death sentence. The abduction and enslavement of women and children is a growing crime in China, where many farmers are willing to pay for wives.

It doesn't pay to advertise in English

JAKARTA (R) — Companies using a foreign language in street advertisements in the Indonesian capital could be fined and their officials jailed under regulations coming into force next month, the Jakarta Post daily reported Monday. "The measure is to enhance citizens' appreciation of their own language," it quoted a Jakarta official as explaining. Many firms stick foreign words, invariably English, into their billboard advertisements. A foreign language may be used from July 7 but it must be in smaller letters and under the Indonesian words.

The paper quoted city councillors as suggesting that for example the U.S. fast-food chain Kentucky Fried Chicken should precede its name with Ayam Goreng, which is Indonesian for fried chicken.

Broadway honours the best of a lean theatre season

NEW YORK (AP) — "Kids of the Spider Woman" and "The Who's Tommy" shared the prize for best score Sunday night as the 1993 Tony Awards got underway. Accepting the prize were Pete Townshend, author of "Tommy," and composer John Kander and lyricist Fred Ebb of "Spider Woman."

"This couldn't really be better for me to be honoured in this way," Mr. Townshend said of the unusual tie. "I've seen their show twice and loved it. I've seen my show 100 times — I hate it."

Playwright Terrence McNally of "Spider Woman" picked up the best book award.

Anthony Crivello, the die-hard revolutionary in "Spider Woman," and Andrea Martin, who played a wise-cracking comedy writer in "My Favourite Year," won Featured-Acting-In-A-Musical prizes.

"I'd like to thank my extended Armenian family for giving me my roots and my hairdresser Gary for restoring them to their natural colour," said Ms. Martin as she rushed through her acceptance speech.

It was a battle between the two big musicals — "Tommy" and "Spider Woman" — that provided the suspense.

Each show got 11 Tony nominations — more than any other production — but figuring which one would receive the coveted Best-Musical Prize was no easy task.

There was little uncertainty about the award for best play: "Angels in America: Millennium Approaches" was the overwhelming favourite. Tony Kushner's epic AIDS drama already has won the Pulitzer Prize as well as the New York Drama Critics' Circle and Drama Desk Awards.

Its competition included Wendy Wasserstein's highly praised comedy "The Sisters Rosensweig" and two more remote possibilities, "Someone Who'll Watch Over Me," a Middle East hostage drama, and "The Song of Jacob Zulu," about the making of a South African revolutionary.

The best musical category became something of a generational contest. "Tommy," an MTV-inspired adaptation of the Who's classic rock opera, battled "Spider Woman," with music by John Kander and Fred Ebb, the veteran songwriting team behind "Cabaret" and "New York, New York."

"Spider Woman," a stark tale of love and torture set in a Latin American jail, is the latest incarnation of the Manuel Puig novel. The 1985 film version William Hurt an Academy Award.

The long shots were "Blood Brothers," a British musical about twins separated at birth, and "The Goodbye Girl," Neil Simon's reworking of his 1977 film about the romance between a single mother and an unemployed actor.

The 1992-93 Broadway season ended with mixed results. There were record ticket sales of \$327.7 million and a rise in attendance to 7.86 million, up from 7.37 million the previous year. Yet much of the boost was due to increased ticket prices and the continued strength of older hits.

"Guys And Dolls," "Crazy For You," "Jelly's Last Jam" and "The Will Rogers Follies" were still finding audiences, as well as four seemingly indestructible British musicals: "Cats," "Les Miserables," "The Phantom of the Opera" and "Miss Saigon."

The year's 33 productions were mostly undistinguished and none generated much excitement until "Angels in America," "Tommy" and "Spider Woman" arrived late in the season. Only nine new plays opened during the season.

Two of them were one-man efforts and a third was the clown show "Fool Moon," starring Bill Irwin and David Shiner.

The 47th annual Tony Show, presented by the American Theatre Wing and the League of American Theatres and Producers, was televised live by CBS from the Gershwin Theatre with host Liza Minnelli.

A special Tony Award for outstanding regional theatre, recommended by the American Theatre Critics Association, was given to the La Jolla Playhouse in California.

Also honoured was "Okla-homa" the landmark Rodgers and

Hammerstein musical is celebrating its 50th anniversary.

Two other special awards were given, one to the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees and Moving Picture Machine Operators of the United States and Canada, and another to Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS, an entertainment industry charity.

A 12-member panel of theatre professionals chose the nominees in 19 competitive categories. The winners were picked by 668 members of the theatrical community, including producers, journalists, actors, playwrights, directors, designers, choreographers and casting directors.

The Tonys are named for Antoinette Perry, who was a leading force in the American Theatre Wing during World War II and a founder of the Stage Door Canteen.

Bruguera advances standing; Graf may miss Wimbledon

PARIS (Agencies) — Two years ago Sergi Bruguera had to drop out of the French Open with back problems.

In 1993, Bruguera was on his back — in celebration. He had just become the French Open champion, beating two-time winner Jim Courier, 6-4, 2-6, 6-2, 3-6, 6-3 in a see-saw match just short of four hours.

"This time he was sore. But happy," Bruguera said. "I think it was emotion and also because I was tired."

Bruguera of Spain moved up to fifth place from 11th in the men's rankings issued by the ATP Tour Monday after his victory over Courier in Sunday's final.

Playing in his first Grand Slam final, the 22-year-old Spaniard "waited to halt Courier's French Open winning streak at 20 matches" and thwart his bid to join Bjorn Borg as the only man to win three straight titles.

"It was in heaven for a moment," Bruguera said. "It's unbelievable when your dream comes true. It was the best feeling I've ever had."

As Bruguera twined in ecstasy with his arms covering his face, Courier jogged over, pulled him up, and the two men hugged. Bruguera then ran off the court to embrace his father and coach, Luis.

Bruguera, usually a man of few words, was ebullient after accepting the Musketeers' Cup from the French tennis great Jean Borotra.

"I'll tell you a secret," he told the crowd in French. "Ever since I was six years old, my birthday wish has been to win the French Open."

Courier, who spoke in French at last year's award ceremony, delighted the fans with another French speech.

"Last year, I spoke like a Spanish cow," he said, using a French expression for someone who butchers the language. "This year, I played against a Spanish cow."

"No, that wasn't funny," Courier continued. "Congratulations to Sergi. Very well played, especially in the fifth set."

Bruguera came into the match as a heavy underdog, having lost to Courier in straight sets in their four previous meetings. What's

more, Courier hadn't lost a match here since 1990, when he was beaten in the quarterfinals by Andre Agassi.

The match was played in draining heat and humidity, with temperatures approaching 100 degrees (32 C) on court. Each player changed shirts at least half a dozen times.

The match was filled with long games and included a total of 40 break points — 26 for Bruguera and 14 for Courier. Bruguera broke serve five times, Courier four.

Graf may miss Wimbledon with foot injury

Newly crowned French Open women's champion Steffi Graf played her Paris semifinals and final with pain-killing injections and may have to pull out of Wimbledon because of a foot injury, medical officials said Monday.

Graf, defending champion and four times a winner at Wimbledon, delayed her planned departure to London Monday to have further tests on the foot.

Doctors at the Paris tournament said she may have an Achilles tendon problem or a stress

fracture of the right foot, an injury which would almost certainly stop her playing at Wimbledon, which starts in three weeks time.

They said the German, whose victory in Saturday's women's final over American Mary Joe Fernandez took her past Monica Seles to the top of the world rankings, hurt her foot near the end of her quarter-final with American Jennifer Capriati.

Graf played her semifinal against fellow-German Anke Huber with a pain-killing injection but complained she had no sensation in the foot.

A smaller dose was administered for the final against Fernandez which she won in a tight three-setter.

If Graf does pull out, Wimbledon may not see either of the French Open singles champions and may have to pull out of Wimbledon because of a foot injury, medical officials said Monday.

The attacking demands of grass are alien to his solid baseline game.

Since Bjorn Borg of Sweden won both the French and Wimbledon titles in 1980, no man has successfully been able to make the sudden adjustment from clay to grass.

Men's ATP Standings

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Pete Sampras (U.S.) | 3,888 Points |
| 2. Jim Courier (U.S.) | 3,385 " |
| 3. Stefan Edberg (Sweden) | 3,061 " |
| 4. Boris Becker (Germany) | 2,577 " |
| 5. Sergi Bruguera (Spain) | 2,559 " |
| 6. Goran Ivanisevic (Croatia) | 2,431 " |
| 7. Ivan Lendl (U.S.) | 2,262 " |
| 8. Andrei Medvedev (Ukraine) | 2,017 " |
| 9. Michael Stich (Germany) | 1,982 " |
| 10. Peter Korda (Czech Republic) | 1,946 " |
| 11. Michael Chang (U.S.) | 1,925 " |
| 12. Richard Krajicek (Netherlands) | 1,855 " |
| 13. Andre Agasi (U.S.) | 1,692 " |
| 14. Karel Novacek (Czech Republic) | 1,665 " |
| 15. Thomas Muster (Austria) | 1,572 " |

French Open champions of 1993

Men's singles — Sergi Bruguera, Spain.
Men's doubles — Luke and Murphy Jensen, United States
Women's singles — Steffi Graf, Germany
Women's doubles — Gigi Fernandez, United States and Natalia Zvereva, Belarus
Mixed doubles — Eugenia Maniokova, Russia, and Andrei Olhovskiy, Russia
Junior boy's singles — Roberto Carretero, Spain.
Junior boy's doubles — Steven Downs, New Zealand, and James Greenhalgh, New Zealand.
Junior girl's singles — Martina Hingis, Switzerland.
Junior girl's doubles — Laurence Courtis, Belgium and Nancy Feber, Belgium.

Mansell captures 1st oval track win

WEST ALLIS, Wisconsin (R) — Formula One world champion Nigel Mansell notched his second victory of the IndyCar season and his first ever on an oval track when he won the Miller Genuine Draft 200 at the Milwaukee Mile Sunday.

Mansell swept past pole-sitter Raul Boesel with 18 laps remaining and held off the Brazilian the rest of the way to win in his Lola-Ford Cosworth at an average speed of 110.970 miles per hour (178.584 Kph).

Boesel finished second, just 0.56 seconds behind the Briton in another Lola-Ford Cosworth.

Indianapolis 500 winner Emerson Fittipaldi finished third in a Penske-Chevrolet, ahead of Bobby Rahal in a Lola-Chevrolet. Al Unser Jr. was fifth in another Lola-Chevrolet.

Mansell, who won his first Formula One title for Williams last



Nigel Mansell
year before joining the Newman-Haas IndyCar team, opened the IndyCar season with a victory in

an Australian street race. He had never raced oval tracks before this year and finished a remarkable third at last weekend's 500-mile Classic at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

"This is marvellous. The team did such a fantastic job," said Mansell, who leads the IndyCar series with 70 points after five races.

"The boys just worked fantastic and the Ford engine just worked beautifully, it didn't miss a beat."

Mansell, who started the race from the seventh spot on the grid after turning in slower times in qualifying than in practice at the Milwaukee Mile, stands 18 points clear of Boesel, who is second in the championship with 52 points.

Fittipaldi is third on 51 points and Mansell's teammate, Mario Andretti, who finished 18th Sunday, is fourth with 43 points.

NBA finals pit Barkley vs. Jordan

PHOENIX (AP) — It's the dream matchup between two dream team Olympic gold medalists: Charles Barkley versus Michael Jordan, one on one, eyeball to eyeball, scalp to scalp, for the NBA title.

How about a best-of-7 series just between those two? Clear off the floor and let them play to 100 halfcourt — go dunk for dunk, 3-pointer for 3-pointer, rebound for rebound. Let's see if Barkley can muscle Jordan underneath or if Jordan can fly over Barkley's head.

And get those microphones up close to listen to their trash talk, good, cutting taunts between friends, verbal one-upmanship to match anything they do near the hoop.

Does anyone really want to see a duel of second-rate centres, Chicago's Bill Cartwright against Phoenix's Mark West, or a matchup of point guards, Chicago's B.J. Armstrong against Kevin Johnson?

No, the thrill here goes beyond teamwork into the realm of individual brilliance, where only the special reside. In the NBA, the two who are special are "Sir Charles" and "His Airness."

Will it happen, will they truly go mano a mano, from start to finish when the finals begin here Wednesday? Regrettably, not a chance. Oh, Barkley and Jordan,

old U.S. Olympic team buddies, will hack against each other on the golf course between games, wagers on the side. But when they get on the court they'll keep their distance even though they're both about the same height.

Look for Phoenix to pit Dan Majerle on Jordan. A mismatch that could let "His Airness" score 40 or 50 a game if his wrist isn't still bothering him, or even if it is.

And look for Chicago to hound Barkley with Horace Grant and Scottie Pippen, one to bump him inside, the other to chase him outside.

Sure, there will be moments when Barkley and Jordan collide, times when they'll switch off to face each other or go after the same loose balls. But mostly they'll be squaring off across the court from each other, trying to match shots.

"Michael is a great player, and I'm a great player," Barkley said after notching 44 points and 24 rebounds Saturday against Seattle. "We'll get our points, but the other players will determine the championship series. It won't be me or Michael."

"I'll be Scottie Pippen for Chicago. Or Kevin Johnson or Dan Majerle or Tom Chambers or Danny Ainge for us. We're here because of the other guys. This ain't about two guys and the little



Bulls star Michael Jordan (No. 23) will be hard to stop

sisters of the crippled."

Well, yes, but it's these particular two guys, Charles and Michael, who at any moment can take over a game as no one else in the NBA, and it's because of

these two guys that the nation will be watching. The Bulls and Suns split two games this year, oddly with the winner both times on the loser's court.

Violence mars final week of Italian soccer season

ROME (R) — Rioting marred the final weekend of the Italian first division season Sunday with two separate outbreaks of hooliganism reported.

Television reports said some 50 people were hurt after fans of rival clubs AC Milan and Sampdoria battled for an hour beside a railway line near the northern town of Alessandria.

State television also reported that fans went on the rampage in Florence after local club Fiorentina were relegated, ending a 54-year unbeaten run in the top flight.

The reports said fans hurled stones and bottles at the police and set a car on fire outside Florence's Stadio Comunale.

Police replied by firing rounds of tear gas and baton-charging the angry fans.

The volatile Florence fans reacted violently to the relegation, going on the rampage outside the Stadio Comunale with stones and bottles thrown and a car set on fire.

The two teams were kept inside the stadium for over an hour after the match for their own safety.

Florentina, who spent some \$20 million on players such as

Dane Brian Laudrup and German Stefan Effenberg last summer, roared into a 4-0 halftime lead thanks to a double by Argentine striker Gabriel Batistuta and two more goals from fellow forward Francesco Baiano.

They extended the lead to 6-0 but conceded two irrelevant late goals as the 35,000 crowd communicated the fact that other results were going against them.

Brescia beat Sampdoria 3-1 despite playing almost an hour with just 10 men after midfielder Stefano Bonometti had been sent off.

Second half goals from Sergio Domini and a late penalty by Romanian striker Florin Raducioiu gave Brescia their win and denied 1991 league champions Sampdoria a place in the UEFA Cup.

Udinese, promoted with Brescia a year ago, salvaged a 1-1 draw at Roma and a play-off place thanks to a goal 10 minutes from time from midfielder Stefano Desideri.

Champions Milan ended the season with just one win in their final 12 matches after drawing at Genoa.

Oman preparing to host international chess tourney

MUSCAT (AP) — Oman, where there is evidence of chess games 1,000 years ago, is preparing to thrust itself into the forefront of modern play with a world title match between Russian Anatoly Karpov and Dutchman Jan Timman, sports officials said Monday.

They said Karpov and Timman are expected to travel to the Sultanate in October for the second phase of a play-off organized by the International Chess Federation.

The federation, based in Lucerne, Switzerland, is to confirm this week that the first 12 of 24 games will be held in the Netherlands and the remainder in the Oman capital of Muscat, the sources said.

The federation still needs to sort out whether Amsterdam or Arnhem will host the first phase.

During the past 18 months, archaeologists led by Juris Zarins of Southwest Missouri State University have discovered remains of chess pieces and boards at what they claim was Arabia's "Atlantis of the sands," the lost city of Ubar, more than 500 miles (800 kilometres) southwest of Muscat.

The early Islamic remains, dat-

ing back to the 10th and 11th centuries, are made of sandstone and include pawns, an elephant (equivalent to the western bishop), a wazir, or minister (queen), and Zarins recently revealed, a king with a star on his head.

"Surprisingly we have evidence that the people had a fair amount of leisure time and had gaming devices of one kind and another. I think it was the Las Vegas of the east or something like that," Zarins told the Associated Press in reference to the wealthy inhabitants of the staging post, who profited from control of trade routes across Arabia.

Historians say that chess originated in India in the 6th century and spread west to Persia and Arabia. The name chess is generally accepted as being derived from the Persian word shah — a king or ruler.

The venue for the chess tournament is the luxurious Al Bustan Palace, a hotel overlooking the Gulf of Oman. Sure to catch the eyes of the chess experts is a 16-square-foot (1.4-square-metre) chess board with 2-foot (60-centimetre) high pieces set in the ornate hotel's immaculately manicured grounds.

Bosnian team brings message to the world

WROCLAW, Poland (AP) — To get to this European basketball tournament, the Bosnian team had to dodge sniper bullets at the Sarajevo Airport. Three people crossing with the team were shot dead.

"It was very easy to come here," Bosnian coach Mirza Delibasic said with a wry smile. Bosnia is competing in an extra qualifying tournament to accommodate those countries from the former Yugoslavia and Soviet Union seeking berths in the European Basketball Championships.

On Sunday, Bosnia beat Ukraine 74-66 to win a spot in the European finals, beginning June 22 in Germany.

Delibasic said his team in Sarajevo had not played a single game, or even seen a ball, for over a year since war broke out in April 1992. Still, the Bosnians defeated Poland Thursday and Estonia Saturday. Then came the victory over Ukraine.

"I am very satisfied with my boys," Delibasic said. "They did a great job."

Delibasic and seven of his 10 players took the death-defying risk to leave their war-torn country in April.

Emir Mutapcic, the Bosnian captain who now plays for the German club Alba Berlin, and two other leading players joined them shortly before the tournament.

Mutapcic, who played 220 games for the former Yugoslav national team, said the Bosnian squad is intent on boosting the morale of the people back home.

Delibasic said his multi-ethnic squad also wants to prove Muslims, Serbs and Croats can play together.

"What's more, we must live together," he said.

Four of the players were soldiers in Sarajevo. They fought in the first months of the war until sports officials managed to persuade their commanders that they should be withdrawn from the front line, Mutapcic said.

"They are soldiers," Delibasic stressed. "We all are soldiers for Bosnia-Herzegovina." In Sarajevo, we were fighting for our lives; the lives of our families."

Sipping beer in Wroclaw's Hala Lodowa, Delibasic reflected on the "greatest adventure in my life" — the three days it took him and his players to get from Sarajevo to the safety of the Croatian city of Split on the Adriatic coast.

Delibasic and his players had to get across the Sarajevo Airport, a killing field where Serbian snipers nightly take their toll. But it is the only route out of the city for ordinary people.

With the help of friends, Delibasic and his players crossed to territory held by the Bosnian government just beyond the airport. Then they made the dangerous trek to Croatian lines and finally to Split — once an east 4-hour drive from Sarajevo.

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YESTERDAY'S STAR

East-West vulnerable. South the reply. "I would never be in that game," retorted Johnny. "It's too tough!"

Crawford sat South on this hand from a rubber bridge game. The auction could not be improved upon today. However, the 4-1 spade break might make it seem that the hand was unmakeable.

West led the queen of diamonds and Crawford made short shrift of the play. After winning the ace, declarer immediately ducked a club to East's nine. The return of the diamond king was ruffed, and the ace and queen of trumps revealed the bad news. South had already lost one trick, and was looking at four more potential losers.

Two of those soon vanished. Declarer cashed the king and ace of clubs and ruffed a club in dummy. A diamond ruff gave declarer an eighth trick, and the ace of hearts and king of trumps brought declarer's total to 10.

Note that it was essential to duck a club before playing two rounds of trumps. If declarer does not take that precaution, West can arrange to win the first club and lead another trump, and declarer will end up a trick short.

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Arabic
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100,000 displaced in 5 weeks in south Sudan

KHARTOUM (Agencies) — In five weeks almost 100,000 civilians have been newly displaced in war-torn southern Sudan, apparently fleeing rebel infighting, the government said Monday.

William Roy Foke, minister for political affairs in Upper Nile, a southern region, said 74,000 people fled into the regional capital Malakal and another 24,000 to the Aweil area in the southern Bahr Al Ghazal region. Malakal is 680 kilometres south of Khartoum, at the northern edge of the war zone and usually out of reach of rebels waging civil war for 10 years. The war has often reached Aweil, 960 kilometres southwest of Khartoum.

Mr. Foke said the 59,000 of the Malakal group were returned to their homes in the Fitor area, 300 kilometres to the southeast. A report of his comments on the official Sudan Arab News Agency (SUNA) did not say why but indicated their home areas were judged safe.

Mr. Foke did not specify what caused the civilian exodus. But since a ceasefire was declared in the south last February, the government has accused rebel factions of breaking it repeatedly to attack army troops as well as to fight each other. It claims rebels have killed scores of civilians and displaced hundreds of thousands.

Refugees flee Liberian town after massacre

HARBEL (Agencies) — Hundreds of frightened people fled from Harbel district on Monday after a massacre of civilians at the weekend.

About 300 people were killed in the attack early Sunday morning and 700 were wounded, Nathaniel Barte, a doctor, said. Photographs published in Liberian newspapers showed babies with their heads smashed and a woman with her belly slashed open and her unborn child ripped out.

Survivors were still too shocked to describe the raid on the farming camp, near the Firestone rubber plantation about 65 kilometres east of the capital, Monrovia.

"All I can say is I cannot stay here anymore, I cannot stay here anymore," 16-year-old Sarah Toe told Reuters.

Brigadier John Adda, Ghanaian deputy commander of the West African force sent to end Liberia's civil war, blamed the rebel National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) led by Charles Taylor for the massacre.

"The action of the rebels should reveal to the world the kind of people Ecomog is dealing with," he told reporters.

Mr. Taylor denies the accusation, calling it a pretext for Ecomog and its militia allies to launch a new offensive against him.

The camp, inhabited mostly by farmers and rubber tappers driven from their original homes by the war, was guarded by the Armed Forces Liberia (AFL) militia.

AFL men in 1990 carried out the worst atrocity to come to light in the war so far when they killed 600 civilians sheltering in a Monrovia church.

Survivors said Sunday's

The United Nations says two million civilians currently are displaced by the civil war. Aid workers estimate that as many as one million people have died in the last decade from the fighting and manmade famines it has caused.

Infighting among rebels has held up Western relief aid to starving southerners. An estimated four million of Sudan's 27 million inhabitants are said to be facing starvation, disease, homelessness or terrorising warfare in the continuing rebellion.

SUNA said later more aid has been shipped by river barge the famine-stricken area.

It said a barge loaded with 1,800 tonnes of relief aid left Sunday for Malakal.

SUNA also quoted a source at Sudan's relief and rehabilitation commission as saying another barge carrying 2,800 tonnes of supplies would arrive in Juba, southern Sudan's main town, in the next few days.

Relief agencies say Juba, where 60 per cent of a population of 400,000 have been displaced by the civil war, is still critically short of food.

SUNA said a relief train would be sent soon from the north to Wau, the second largest town in the south.

Last week, a relief train dropped off a total of 1,000 tonnes of supplies at more than 16 different locations between Aweil, a major railway town in Bahr Al Ghazal state, and Wau.

Mr. Allen and his longtime leading lady parted in January 1992, after Ms. Farrow found naked photographs of her oldest adopted daughter, Soon-Yi Previn, 22, in his apartment.

Their custody fight began last August after Ms. Farrow accused Mr. Allen of molesting Dylan during a visit to her home in Bridgeport, Connecticut. An independent team of sex-abuse experts said the girl had not been molested.

The ruling comes a month after the end of a bitter public trial. "It's everything I wanted to protect this family," Ms. Alter said on emerging from the courtroom.

Mr. Allen, 57, was granted supervised visitation with five-year-old Satchel, the couple's biological son. The judge ruled that there would be no visitation with Moses, who is their 15-year-old adopted son, unless Moses wants it.

Mr. Allen's visits with Satchel will be limited to two hours, three times a week.

According to Ms. Alter, Mr. Allen must pay legal costs of the litigation.

The custody trial lasted several weeks, concluding with summations May 4.

Separately, Ms. Yarrow has asked the surrogate court to undo Mr. Allen's adoption of Moses and Dylan. Ms. Farrow said Mr. Allen defrauded her and the court by concealing that he was sexually involved with Miss Previn. A hearing in that court was to be held Wednesday.

The 48-year-old actress has charged that Mr. Allen defrauded her and the court when he adopted the two children, because he failed to disclose that he was sexually involved with their older sister.

Mr. Taylor last month announced he was switching from open confrontation with Ecomog to guerrilla tactics and attacks have been reported recently on civilians northeast of Monrovia.

But in interviews with the BBC and CNN he denied taking part in the massacre.

2 Somalis killed in fresh fighting

MOGADISHU (Agencies) — Pakistani U.N. troops shot dead at least two Somali gunmen after their military base in the Somali capital Mogadishu was attacked Monday, witnesses said.

They said no Pakistanis were killed in a heavy exchange of fire which took place only hours after the Security Council demanded its peacekeeping troops in Somalia track down gunmen who shot dead at least 23 Pakistanis in weekend ambushes.

Reuters television cameraman Mohamed Shafiq said U.S. reinforcements were sent to the Pakistani military compound on October 21 road and took up positions on top of nearby buildings.

"Somalis in a pick-up vehicle drove towards the barracks and suddenly started firing. The Pakistanis returned fire and the vehicle careered off the road," he said. "Two Somalis lay dead on the road."

Survivors, including women, took cover in nearby bushes and continued to fire at the Pakistani troops, he added.

Mohammad Farah Ajeed, the Mogadishu warlord blamed by most independent analysts for the weekend violence (see page 2), told Reuters he was disappointed by the Security Council's unanimous vote to bring the perpetrators to justice.

"We are very disappointed the Security Council did not listen to our side, only to that of UNOSOM (U.N. Operation in Somalia)," he said.

General Ajeed called for a neutral investigation to be conducted by a "neutral organisation."

"Otherwise I do not think the world will stand for such injustice," he said.

The weekend death toll has risen to 23 after one of five Pakistani soldiers captured in the fighting, but released on Monday later died in hospital from gunshot wounds.

Earlier, helicopter gunships hovered low over Mogadishu where foreign aid workers said U.N. troops were gearing up to go after Somali militiamen, widely believed to come from Gen. Ajeed's wing of the United Somali Congress (USC).

The U.N. says Saturday's attack, one of the bloodiest in the history of peacekeeping operations, was "preconceived and pre-planned."

Pakistani Brigadier General Ikram Ul Hassan, commander of Pakistani troops in Somalia, told Reuters Television in an interview the attack on his men was "a well-conceived action."

He declined to say what response United Nations forces in Mogadishu would take, but confirmed reports the multinational force was building up its military hardware.

"We do not have enough gear yet (to go after the killers)," he said.

Attacks continue in Germany; Kohl defends his decision

FRANKFURT (AP) — Chancellor Helmut Kohl said Monday he stayed away from memorial services for five Turks killed in neo-Nazi violence because he did not want to be jeered in front of television cameras.

The frank statement, which appeared to put political image considerations ahead of solidarity with the victims, was bound to stir up a new round of criticism of the embattled government chief.

There were no signs the round of violence would stop, following the May 29 murders of the five Turks in Solingen.

Arsonists attacked two more houses where foreigners live, causing no major injury or damage. Four young Turks tried to set fire to the office of a conservative political party, in retaliation for the attacks on their compatriots.

Politicians debated whether the rightist violence is organised, or the result of drunken, disenchanted individuals.

Germany's ZDF television network noted that chief prosecutor Alexander von Stahl confirmed that one of the four Solingen suspects apparently was a member of an extreme rightist political party.

"Just two days ago, von Stahl said there was no indication that one of the suspects belonged to an extreme rightist organisation," the network noted.

Investigators are scrambling to find out just how widespread the neo-Nazi sentiments are in Germany.

In an interview with the Sat 1 cable channel, Mr. Kohl said the Germans could not be "generally accused of hate of foreigners."

Defending his decision not to attend the memorial service, Mr. Kohl said: "I am not the one in Germany who needs to catch up on sympathy for the Turks."

He said going to the service would have caused some groups to heckle him.

"I know which pictures go around the world and which not. That's why I know how I have to act," said Mr. Kohl, referring to the television coverage of the Solingen aftermath. He was widely criticised for skipping last week's service.

Mr. Kohl blamed the rightist troubles on social pressures

caused by the influx of hundreds of thousands of impoverished refugees from Eastern Europe and Africa.

However, critics, social commentators and opposition politicians have begun to say that the roots go much deeper, reflecting basic problems with German society and upbringing.

The latest attacks came in North Rhine-Westphalia, the same western state where arson killed the five Turks in Solingen.

Police said they set fire to two baby carriages in the corridor of a house in Soest. Residents called firemen, who put out the fire and avoided serious injuries.

The house is "inhabited by a Lebanese family with four children, a Syrian, a Pakistani and an ethnic Albanian from the Yugoslav province of Kosovo. The 30-year-old Syrian man was treated for light smoke inhalation."

In the town of Bergisch-Gladbach, a burning blanket was discovered on top of a rocking horse in a house where several Turkish families live. A man who lives in the house discovered the first-floor fire and put it out.

In Aschaffenburg, south of Frankfurt, police arrested four Turks aged between 16 and 18, after they tried to set fire to the office of the Christian Social Union, the arch-conservative party in the federal government coalition. There was only minimal damage.

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His Majesty King Hussein Monday confers with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat (left). At right is Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali (Petra photo)

King and Arafat hold talks

(Continued from page 1)

member of the Palestinian negotiating team Saeb Erakat and Palestinian Ambassador Al Tayyeb Abdul Rahim.

The King hosted a dinner in honour of Mr. Arafat and the delegation accompanying him.

In an interview with Petra upon arrival, Mr. Arafat, chairman of the PLO, said the Palestinians were awaiting a response from the U.S. administration to a 10-point letter sent to Secretary of State Warren Christopher a few days ago before announcing their participation in the next round of Arab-Israeli bilateral peace talks.

The Palestinians, he said, had promised their Arab partners in the peace talks — Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and Egypt — at an Amman meeting which concluded early Monday that "we would be positive in our participation in the peace process, but we hope at the same time that the Israeli side as well as the American side, which wants to play the role of a full partner, will be positive in their approach to the peace process."

He told Jordan Television that

his visit to Amman "comes at a crucial stage in the life of the Arab nation in general, and the Palestinian question in particular, especially that nothing was achieved on the Palestinian track in the bilateral talks."

"This calls for a basic move on the part of the co-sponsors of the talks — the U.S. and Russia — mainly the U.S., to make Israel respect the principles of the peace process, namely the principle of exchanging land for peace and the implementation U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338," he said.

Mr. Arafat assailed Israel for its abuse of the human rights of the Palestinians in the occupied territories. He said the number of Palestinians killed by Israelis since the intifada began in 1987 had reached 1,237.

He wished King Hussein success in his trip to the U.S. next week and said Israeli measures in the territories and the sufferings of the Palestinian people add to the King's responsibilities.

King Hussein is scheduled to meet U.S. President Bill Clinton June 18.

Arabs accept June 15 bilaterals

(Continued from page 1)

tion in the next round," Dr. Abdul Shafiq told Reuters.

He said the conviction had increased that "it is futile continuing the negotiating process" after nine rounds failed to produce any results.

Senior officials from the PLO, which has directed the Palestinian

team, could not immediately be reached for comment on Dr. Abdul Shafiq's remarks.

"Those who say there was talk about substance in the last round are trying to give a wrong impression... in fact there was totally nothing new... no real progress was achieved," he said.

Arabiyat reports Majali's assurance

(Continued from page 1)

task of overseeing the next general elections, expected to be held later this year.

In his letter of designation to the Majali government, the King said: "I am sure that you will guarantee for all men and women full equality in rights and duties and facilitate for all people the right to vote for the coming Parliament in a fair and free manner."

This was interpreted by most observers as leaving the door open for changes in the Election Law towards a one-man-one-vote system.

In an interview with Reuters shortly after assuming office, Dr. Majali said: "We may change the law. We have not made a decision about changing or not changing the law."

"The election will hopefully take place on time and now we are studying how to structure it according to the Constitution (which says) that every person is equal," Dr. Majali told Reuters.

The Brotherhood, which had the advantage of being the best organised political group and won 23 seats in the 80-member Lower House in November 1989 election under the present Election Law, opposes any government amendment to the legislation and insists that such a move should pass through Parliament.

Parliament recessed in March after holding its last ordinary session, and the Constitution empowers the government to enact temporary laws when the legislative authority is in recess. But the Brotherhood argues that the legal term of the current Parliament will not end until the next elections and, as such, it should be convened if necessary to discuss such an important issue as elections.

Notwithstanding emphatic rejections by Brotherhood leaders, analysts see the Islamic movement's stand as a reflection of concern that the group stood to lose some of its seats in Parliament if a one-man-one vote system were introduced.

Dr. Arabiyat said Monday he was satisfied with the assurance provided by the prime minister.

"We are all going to participate in and contribute to any process related to the Election Law," he said in a telephone interview.

One of the ideas being floated around in the context of the Election Law is the formation of a national committee grouping all colours of the Jordanian political spectrum to discuss the legislation and introduce possible amendments if necessary.

The Brotherhood itself appeared to be split over possible amendments to the Election Law. Brotherhood Deputy Abdul Rahim Ekour was quoted as saying on Saturday that the movement would boycott the next elections if the law was amended without parliamentary endorsement. But fellow Deputy Ibrahim Kreisat, spokesman for the Brotherhood bloc in the Lower House, said Sunday there was no such decision and that the movement was committed to participating in the polls regardless of any changes in the legislation.

In its report on Monday's meeting between the prime minister and the House speaker, Petra also quoted Dr. Majali as saying that his government was "determined to pursue the process of construction and to enhance the principles and goals of democracy, freedom and justice..."

Dr. Arabiyat, who had called on Dr. Majali to congratulate him on the formation of his government, was quoted by Petra as saying in a separate statement that it was "important to maintain and strengthen the democratic process and support and nurture the principles of (democratic) institutions and the prevalence of law in the country."

"The democratic institutions in Jordan have a basic and essential role to play in this process and in enhancing national unity," Dr. Arabiyat was quoted as saying.

The House speaker told the Jordan Times that he and Dr. Majali also discussed the 19-month-old Middle East peace process, another area where the Brotherhood is at odds with the government.

"The prime minister noted that progress might vary in the different tracks of (Arab-Israeli) negotiations since each party has different issues on its agenda," Dr. Arabiyat said. "But he reaffirmed that no agreement would be reached except as part of a comprehensive settlement to the conflict."

Dr. Majali, who headed Jordan's negotiating team to the peace talks with Israel until his appointment as prime minister, also reiterated the Kingdom's stand that "any decision related to the Palestinian dimension of the conflict has to be taken by the Palestinian delegation itself" and that the Kingdom would not assume "any role in this regard," Dr. Arabiyat said.

Dr. Arabiyat, widely seen as representing the moderate wing of the Brotherhood, declined further comment.



Report Charles gave up woman friend 2 years ago

LONDON (AP) — A tabloid newspaper reported Monday that Prince Charles "gave up" his relationship with Camilla Parker Bowles two years ago — long before publication of the "Camillagate" tape of an intimate conversation allegedly between the two. The Daily Express quoted an unidentified "friend of the prince" as saying a new book about Mrs. Parker Bowles will open up old wounds just as Charles, 44, and his estranged wife, Princess Diana, are getting on with their lives. The newspaper quoted another nameless friend of Charles as saying "it was all so unnecessary... The prince ended his relationship with Camilla two years ago, in the spring of 1991. He knew he had to give her up and he did." The Sun newspaper, a competitor of the Daily Express, on Monday began serialising the new book, "The King's Mistress," by Caroline Graham. The first installment quotes a former schoolmate and a former boyfriend of 45-year-old Mrs. Parker Bowles as saying that when she was young she talked frequently about her great-grandmother Alice Keppel, longtime mistress of King Edward VII — who was the great-grandfather of Prince Charles. It says Charles and Camilla Shand met in 1970, three years before her marriage to Andrew Parker Bowles and 11 years before his marriage to Lady Diana Spencer.

Robert Kennedy remembered in emotional service

WASHINGTON (R) — President Bill Clinton joined the Kennedy family at Arlington National Cemetery Sunday for an emotional tribute to Robert Kennedy, whose assassination while standing for president 25 years ago stunned the U.S. Some 18,000 people attended the outdoor mass to remember Mr. Kennedy and to hear readings of his works by family members, supporters and friends. Robert Kennedy, who served as attorney general under his brother, President John Kennedy, was gunned down at a Los Angeles hotel June 5, 1968, by Sirhan Sirhan shortly after winning a key California presidential primary. He was 42. Five years ago the country remembered the legacy of his brother, the 35th U.S. president, in a similar tribute.

Malaysian prince may be manipulating his children